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THE MANUSCRIPTS

OF

LINCOLN, BURY ST. EDMUND'S, AND GREAT GRIMSBY CORPORATIONS; AND OF THE DEANS AND CHAPTERS OF WORCESTER AND LICHFIELD, &c.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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O 79300. Wt. 21255.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE CORPORATION OF LINCOLN.

The records of the city of Lincoln, which are kept in the offices of the Town Clerk, consist—i. of Royal Charters; ii. of some miscellaneous documents; iii. of the Chamberlains' Rolls of Account; and iv. of the Registers of the Acts of the Corporation. There are no files of court proceedings, and no original letters or petitions. The Royal Charters extend from the reign of Henry III. to that of William III.; but unhappily, while some that were supposed to be lost have in the course of the present investigation come to light, some which were in existence a quarter of a century ago have strangely disappeared. The records were about that time carefully examined by one Mr. John Ross, who printed a series of notices respecting them in a local newspaper. These notices were reprinted in 1870, after his death, in a small privately-issued volume, entitled *Civitas Lincolnia, from its municipal and other records*. Abstracts of the Royal Charters are there given; of some now found to be safely preserved transcripts were obtained from the Record Office because the originals were not then forthcoming, while no fewer than six originals which Mr. Ross described have since then disappeared. The subsequent contents of his volume include notices of the earlier volumes of the Registers, and of some other documents, amongst which also there are a few which seem now to be lost, including unfortunately a volume of the accounts of the Churchwardens of St. Martin's parish from 1554 to 1636. Mr. Ross's private collections for Lincoln were purchased after his death by the present Viscount Oxenbridge. A list of the recently lost documents is appended below to the calendar of the Royal Charters.

The Registers are in good condition, and the extracts from them will be found to contain much of interest. The particulars relating to the guild pageants, and their lingering existence subsequently to the Reformation, with the Christmas poem of the Three Senators; the destruction of churches and monastic buildings, and the sale of their materials; the mention of the plague, as prevailing in 1515, 1521, and other years; the illustrations of the depressed condition of the city at various times under the fluctuations of trade; the regulations for various trade-guilds; the agreement in 1612 about gleaning; the coinage of tokens by the city in 1669; and the frequent violent disputes between members of the corporation, are among the many matters which will be found to make the municipal story of Lincoln very interesting and readable. But the entire lack of all record of the Great Civil War period is extremely disappointing. The volume which contained it must have perished in the confusion of the time. And another cause of disappointment is the fact that the extant rolls of accounts only reach back to the year 1685.

Since I made my examination of the records, many of the royal charters and other documents have been carefully repaired and cleaned under my superintendence.

WILLIAM DUNN MACRAY.

o 79300. Wt. . A

I.—ROYAL CHARTERS.

[1154–8.] Transcript from the Records in the Tower of the recital in an Inspeximus Charter of 2 Richard II. of the grant by Henry II. to Robert Bishop of Lincoln and his successors, "ad edificia sua et domos suas," of "totam terram cum fossato de muro ballii mei Linc. in orientali parte per circuitum ecclesiæ beati Michaelis usque ad cœmeterium S. Andreæ, et a cœmeterio S. Andreæ usque ad murum civitatis versus orientem," free from langavel and picage and all other things; "et libere poterit perforare murum ballii mei ad portam faciendam ad introitum et exitum suum habendum versus ecclesiam, et ita edificare quod edificia sua extendantur in utrumque murum." Witnesses:—Roger, archbp. of York, Thomas the Chancellor, Rich. de Luci, Warin son of Gerold Chamberlain, William son of Hamo, Rob. de Dunstanville, Josc. de Balliol. At Lincoln.

An office copy, made by Geo. Holmes, and attested by W. Harvey, 24 Feb. 1704. [The original is on Charter Roll, 2 Ric. II., No. 5.]

[1157.] Charter of Henry II.—This, written in 16 lines, occupying 4½ inches on a parchment measuring altogether 6 inches (sewn sometime late in the 15th cent., or beginning of 16th, as appears from the handwriting of an endorsement, on another piece of parchment), is the earliest extant document among the city records. Its existence there was not known. The silk strings of the seal remain with a very small fragment of the wax on one of its parchment labels, together with a tin frame in which the seal was at some time placed, probably when the deed was affixed, for preservation, to its present parchment-back. The charter is as follows:—"H. Rex Angl. et Dux Norm. et Aquitan. et Comes And. Episcopo Linc. Justic., Vic., Baronibus, Ministris et Omnibus fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis Lincolscire; Salutem. Sciatis me concessisse Civibus meis Lincol. omnes libertates et consuetudines et leges suas quas habuerunt tempore Eduardi et Willelmi et Henrici Regum Anglie, et Gildam suam mercatoriam, de hominibus Civitatis et de aliis mercatoribus Comitatus; sicut illam habuerunt tempore predictorum antecessorum meorum Regum Anglie melius et liberius. Et omnes homines qui infra iiii^{or} divisas Civitatis manent et mercatum deducunt; sint ad Geldas et Consuetudines et Asisas Civitatis; sicut melius fuerunt tempore Eduardi et Willelmi et Henrici Regum Anglie. Concedo etiam eis quod si aliquis emerit aliquam terram infra Civitatem de Burgagio Lincolie et eam tenuerit per annum et unum diem sine Calumpnia, et ille qui eam emerit possit monstrare quod Calumpniator extiterit in Regione Anglie infra annum et non Calumpniatus est eam; ex tunc in antea bene et in pace teneat eam et sine placito. Confirmo etiam eis quod si aliquis manserit in Civitate mea Lincol. per annum et unum diem sine Calumpnia alicujus Calumpniatoris, et dederit Consuetudines Civitatis, et Cives poterint monstrare per leges et Consuetudines Civitatis quod Calumpniator extitit in Regione Anglie et non Calumpniatus est eum; ex tunc in antea remaneat in pace in Civitate mea Lincol. sicut Civis meus sine . . . recto. T[estibus], Ph[ilippo] Episcopo Baioc. Ern[ulfo] Episcopo Lexov. Toma Cancellario, Comite Regin[aldo], Ric. de Humes Constabulario, H[enrico] de Essexa Constabulario. Apud Notingeham." [The King was at Nottingham in 1157.] [Enrolled in Chancery, *Cart. Antiq.*, F. 16.]

1194, 23 Apr.—Charter of Richard I. *See* "White Book," f. 150, *infra*.

1200, 23 April. Charter of K. John. This, which is much creased and rubbed, was long since, for its better preservation, attached at the

back to a fragment of a plea at Westminster in the time of Q. Elizabeth, while the fragments of the great seal were fastened in a tin frame within folds of paper sewn together. [The parts in the text within brackets are from the Charter Roll of 1 John, p. 2, m. 3.] "Jo. Dei gracia rex Angl. dom. Hib. dux [Normannie]. Aquit[annie et] com[es] And[egaviæ] archiepiscopis, episcopis, abbatibus, comitibus, baronibus, justiciariis . . . io et omnibus ballivis et fidelibus nostris . . . . Sciatis nos concessisse [civibus nostris] Linc. quod nullus eorum placitet extra muros civitatis Linc. de aliquo placito preter placita [de tenuris exterioribus, exceptis] monetariis et ministris nostris. Concessimus etiam eis quietanciam murdri intra civitatem et in Portsoc, et quod nullus [eorum] faciat duellum, et quod de placitis ad coronam pertinentibusse possint disracionare secundum consuetudinem quam Cives Civitatis Lond. habuerunt tempore Henrici regis patris nostri, et quod infra muros civitatis illius nemo capiat hospicium per vim vel per liberacionem Marescallorum. Hoc etiam eis concessimus quod omnes cives Linc. sint quieti de theloneo et lestagio per totam Angliam et per portus maris, et quod nullus de misericordia pecunie judicetur nisi secundum legem quam habuerunt cives nostri London. tempore predicti Regis patris nostri, et quod in civitate illa in nullo placito sit [meskenninga et quod] Burewaremot semel tantum in ebdomade teneatur, et quod terras et tenuras et vadia sua et debita sua omnia juste habeant [quicunque eis debeat, et] de terris suis et tenuris que infra civitatem sunt rectum eis teneatur secundum consuetudinem civitatis, et de omnibus debitis suis que accommodata fuerunt apud Linc. et de vadiis ibidem factis, placitum apud Linc. teneatur. Prohibemus eciam ne quis [ab eis] teloneum vel consuetudinem capiat in Anglia de hiis que ad nos pertinent super forisfacturam decem librarum, salvis in omnibus libertatibus civitatis Lond. Insuper ad emendacionem illius civitatis concessimus quod sint quieti de Bridtoll et de Childewite et de Gyereseyeue,* et de Scotale, ita quod prepositi nec alii ballivi scotalam faciant. Has predictas consuetudines eis concessimus et omnes alias libertates et liberas consuetudines secundum libertates Lond. et leges civitatis Linc. quas habuerunt cives nostri Lond. quando meliores vel liberiores habuerunt tempore predicti Regis patris nostri. Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus quod ipsi et heredes eorum hec omnia predicta [habeant et tene]ant hereditarie de nobis et heredibus nostris, reddendo per annum novies viginti libras numero de Linc. cum omnibus pertinentiis ad Scaccarium nostrum duobus terminis, ad Pascham scilicet et ad festum Sancti Michaelis, per manus prepositorum Linc. Preterea volumus et concedimus quod idem cives civitatis Linc. per commune consilium civitatis [eligant] duos de legalioribus et discretioribus civibus Linc., et presentent eos capitali justiciario apud Westm., qui bene et fideliter custodiant Prepositurам civitatis Linc. et [non amoveantur quamdiu] in ballia sua se bene gesserint, nisi per commune consilium civitatis sue. Volumus eciam quod in eadem civitate [Linc. per commune] consilium civium eligantur [quatuor] de legalioribus et discretioribus civitatis ad custodiendum placita corone et alia que ad nos et coronam nostram pertinent in eadem civitate, et ad videndum quod prepositi illius Civitatis juste et legitime tractent tam pauperes quam divites. Testibus, W[ill.] Lond. episcopo G[alfrido] filio Petri comite Essex, Willelmo Mariscall, comite de Penbroc., "Hub. fil. Rogeri Houchard,"† W[ill. Briwerr.] Dat. per man. S[imonis] archid. Well. et J. de Gre[i], archidiaconi de Gloecestre, apud Awelton xxiij die Aprilis et Regni nostri anno primo."

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* In the Charter Roll this is written "jeresyeve."

† Instead of this name the enrolment has "Hug. Bard."

1227, 20 Apr.—Charter of Hen. III. mutilated by damp; seal lost. This was not in late years known to be in existence, but it is mentioned in a list of charters in Vol. IV. of Reports of Municipal Corporation Commission, p. 2345. The missing words are supplied, within brackets, from the Inspeximus of Edw. III. in 1330. "Henricus Dei gratia Rex [*etc.*] Sciatis nos concessisse civibus nostris Lincoln. quod nullus eorum placitet extra civitatem Lincoln. de aliquo placito preter placita de tenuris exterioribus, exceptis monetariis et ministris nostris. Concessimus etiam eis quietanciam murdri infra civitatem [et in Portsoca, et quod nu]llus eorum faciat duellum, et quod de placitis ad coronam pertinentibus se possint disrationare secundum consuetudinem quam cives London. habuerunt tempore H. Regis avi nostri [et quod infra civitatem] Linc. nemo capiat hospitium per vim vel per liberationem Marescalli. Hoc etiam eis concessimus quod omnes cives Linc. sint quieti de theloneo et lestagio per totam Angliam [et per portus maris, et] quod nullus de misericordia pecunie judicetur nisi secundum legem quam habuerunt cives nostri London. tempore H. Regis avi nostri. Et quod in civitate illa in nullo placito sit [Meskenninga, et quod Bu] rewaremote semel tantum in ebdomada teneatur, et quod terras et tenuras et vadia sua et debita sua omnia juste habeant quicunque eis debeat, et de terris suis et tenuris que [infra civitatem sunt rectum eis] teneatur secundum consuetudinem civitatis, et de omnibus debitis suis que accommodata fuerunt apud Lincoln. et de vadiis ibidem factis placitum apud Linc. teneatur. [Prohibemus etiam ne quis ab eis theloneum] vel consuetudinem capiat in Anglia de hiis que ad nos pertinent super forisfacturam decem librarum salvis in omnibus libertatibus civitatis London. Et si quis [in tota Anglia theloneum] ab hominibus Linc. ceperit postquam ipse a recto defecerit, prepositus Linc. namium capiat apud Linc. Insuper etiam ad emendationem illius civitatis concessimus eis quod sint [quieti de Bridtol et de] Childwite et Yeresgive* et scotala, ita quod prepositi nec alii ballivi scotalam faciant. Has predictas consuetudines eis concessimus et omnes alias libertates et liberas consuetudines secundum libertates London [et leges civitatis Lincoln quas] habuerunt cives nostri London. quando meliores vel liberiores habuerunt tempore predicti H. avi nostri vel habent. Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus quod ipsi et heredes eorum hec omnia [predicta habeant et teneant heredi]tarie de nobis et heredibus nostris. Reddendo per annum novies viginti libras numero de Linc. cum omnibus pertinentiis ad Scaccarium nostrum duobus terminis, ad Pascha scilicet et ad festum Sancti Michaelis [per manum] prepositorum Linc. Preterea volumus et concedimus quod ipsi cives Lincoln. per commune consilium civitatis eligant duos de legalioribus civibus Linc. et presentent eos capitali justiciario nostro apud Westmon. [qui bene] et fideliter custodiant prepositurum civitatis Linc. et non amoveantur quamdiu in ball'a sua se bene gesserint nisi per commune consilium civitatis sue. Volumus etiam quod in eadem civitate Linc. [per commune consilium] civium eligantur quatuor de legalioribus et discretioribus civitatis ad custodiendum placita corone et alia que ad nos et ad coronam nostram pertinent in eadem civitate, et ad videndum quod prepositi [illius civitatis juste] et legitime tractent tam pauperes quam divites. Concessimus etiam eis gildam suam mercatoriam de hominibus civitatis et de aliis mercatoribus comitatus, sicut illam habuerunt tempore [H. Regis avi nostri] et ut omnes homines qui infra quatuor divisas civitatis manent et mercatum deducunt sint ad gildas et consuetudines et assisas civitatis sicut melius fuerit tempore predicti H. Regis [avi] nostri. Concessimus etiam eis quod si aliquis nativus manserit in civitate nostra Linc.

* In the Inspeximus this is written *Gieresgieue* and in the Charter Roll *Gyeresiue.*

per unum annum et unum diem sine calumpnia, ex tunc in antea remaneat in pace in civitate nostra Lincoln. sicut civis noster. Sicut carte predicti H. Regis avi nostri, et R. Regis avunculi nostri et domini J. Regis patris nostri, quas inde habent rationabiliter testantur. Hiis testibus W. Carleol. G. Elyens. Th. Norwicen. episcopis, H. de Burgo. Comite Kantie Justiciario nostro, G. Comite Glouc. et Hereford, Henrico de Aldithel, Nich. de Veredun, Theobaldo Pincerna, Osberto Giffard, Radulfo filio Nicholai, [G. de] Crawecumbe, Ricardo de Argent[ein], Henrico de Capella, Radulfo de Raleg. et aliis. Dat. per manum venerabilis patris Radulfi Cycestr. episcopi Cancellarii nostri apud Westmon. vicesimo die Aprilis anno regni nostri undecimo." [Enrolled in Charter Roll of 11 Hen. III., pt. 1, m. 8.]

1226, 21 Nov.—Further charter of exemption from tolls, &c. See "White Book," fol. 150, *infra*.

1262, 7 March.—Letters Patent of Henry III. The great seal, in white wax, is very much broken and in a very brittle state. It has at some time about the end of the fifteenth century or in the sixteenth been enclosed in a tin frame, like that of the charter of Hen. II., and fastened up in several folds of paper, and the document mounted on another parchment, as noticed below. The document is injured by damp, which must have affected it before these precautions for its preservation were taken. It was not known until now to be in existence. "Henricus Dei gratia Rex Angl. Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie vicecomitibus et ministris suis comitatus Lincoln. salutem. Inspeximus literas quas dominus Henricus Rex avus meis fecit civibus Lincoln. in hec verba. H. Rex. Angl. et Dux Normanie Aquitannie et Com. And. vicecomitibus et ministris suis de Lincolnsire salutem. Precipio quod faciatis [forin]secos mercatores venire ad Lincoln. et ibi facere mercaturas suas ita racionabiliter et juste sicut facere solebant tempore H. Regis avi mei, ne prepositi Lincoln. amittant meas regias consuetudines. Teste, Ricardo de Lucy, apud Westmon. ["Wodes"[tock] Pat. Roll]. Nos igitur prefatis civibus nostris hoc [ipsum] tam in conservationem [juris nostri] quam juris eorundem volentes observari, precipimus quod mercatores forinsecos ad villam predictam venire faciatis, et ibi facere mercaturas suas ita racionabiliter et juste, sicut facere solebant temporibus predictorum H. Regis senioris, H. Regis avi nostri, necnon et Ricardi Regis avunculi nostri et Johannis Regis patris nostri, et eciam tempore nostro usque primam transfretacionem nostram in Britanniam. Et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod hoc eisdem civibus a modo observetur per forisfacturam nostram decem librarum. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste meipso apud Windelesoram septimo die Marcii anno regni nostri quadragesimo sexto." [Enrolled on Pat. Roll, 46 Hen. III., m. 14.]

This is mounted on a copy, on parchment, of a petition from the citizens of "Nicole" to the King (probably Edw. IV.) in Parliament, in French, praying for relief from the fee-farm annual rent to the Crown of 180*l*., which had become quite insupportable. Many of the inhabitants of the city have departed with all their goods, people will not trade there on account of the excessive charge, the highways as well as the lanes are empty and desolate for want of tenants, and the city is consequently on the verge of destruction. Of the aforesaid rent 80*l*. had been granted by the King's royal progenitors to the cathedral church of our Lady of Nicole, in three portions, viz. 17*l*. for the work ("al oeps") of the chapter, 40*s*. in augmentation of the stipend of the [chaplain] chanting for the King and his forefathers, and 60*l*. to the chaplains of the chantry for the soul of Sir Bartholomew Burghersh; and the Lady de Roos, that is to say Beatrice who was the wife of Sir

Thomas de Roos late lord of Hamelok, is seised for her life of the remaining part of the said rent, viz. 100*l.*, as her dower, it having been granted to the Lord de Roos and their heirs in exchange for the Castle of Werk. The citizens pray therefore for confirmation of all their privileges, and for relief in some way or other from this burden.

1272, 12 Feb.—Charter of Henry III. This deed, like the preceding, has been mounted on parchment, and the broken great seal fastened up in a case of folds of paper, probably about the beginning of the sixteenth century. The existence of this original also was unknown. "Henricus Dei gratia Rex Angl. Dominus Hib. et Dux Aquitann. archiepiscopis [*etc.*] salutem. Sciatis quod cum per cartam nostram quam inspeximus concesserimus civibus nostris Lincoln. quod nullus eorum placitet extra civitatam Lincoln. de aliquo placito preter placita de tenuris exterioribus, exceptis monetariis et ministris nostris, Nos eisdem civibus gratiam ampliorem ad ipsorum instanciam facere volentes concessimus eis et hac carta nostra confirmavimus quod omnia placita civitatis eiusdem et non alia decetero placitentur et teneantur in aula placitorum civitatis ejusdem que Gyldehalle vocitatur et non alibi contra voluntatem civium ipsorum vel successorum suorum, exceptis placitis de tenuris exterioribus et monetariis ac ministris nostris. Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod omnia placita [*etc.*] sicut predictum est imperpetuum. Hiis testibus, venerabili patre W. Ebor. archiepiscopo Anglie primate, Roberto Aguillon, Elya de Rabayne, Petro de Chauent, Stephano de Eddeworthe, Matheo de Louaine, Willelmo de Sancta Eremina, . . . Euerarde, Rogero de Wautone, et aliis. Data per manum nostram apud Westmonasterium, duodecimo die Febr. anno regni nostri quinquagesimo sexto."

The parchment on which the charter is sewn is a fragment of a declaration, in English, by Robert Gyll mayor, Hamond Sutton, Thomas Wymbishe, John Stanlowe, esqs., Robert Bate, . . Long, William Chambre, William Toft, John Dycon and Henry Hygdon, aldermen, Roger Hogekynson, Thomas . . ney, Thomas Herde, Thomas Melburne, William Irchynnet, and Richard Codde, late sheriffs of the city, that Sir Robert Farford person of Blaunkney and vicar of Scoupwyke 14 or 15 years ago has been untruly and maliciously defamed by Sir Thomas Buknall, a priest, and unjustly proceeded against at law.

1291, 1 May.—Provisions (in French) by Edward I. for the staple of wool, leather, and skins in England, Ireland, and Wales. Part of the lower margin of the parchment has been cut, and the great seal, which is fastened up in folds of paper, is consequently detached. "Edward par le grace de Dieu [etc.] au Meire de sa cite de Nicole. Nous vous maundons fermement enioignantz que les choses desoubs escrites ordeinez par nous et notre conseil por comun profit et esement du poeple de tut notre roialme et povir facez crier et publier et fermement tenir et garder en notre cite auauntdite et par tut en votre baillie." The places assigned for the staple in England are Newcastle-upon-Tyne, York, Lincoln, Norwich, London, Winchester, Exeter, and Bristol; in Ireland, Dublin, Drogheda, and Cork; and in Wales, Shrewsbury, Carmarthen, and Cardiff, and for Cornwall, Lostwithiel and Trerew, and for Devonshire, Aysperton [Ashburton]. Eleven sections follow of trade regulations for alien merchants, and for those of England, Ireland and Wales; amongst which are provisions that the merchants and people of Gascony and the duchy of Guienne who are under the obedience of the King or his son, are not to be regarded as aliens but as denizens; that after Christmas next no person shall use any cloth bought after that date which was not made in England, Ireland, or Wales under pain of forfeiture and such punishment as the King and his Council may ordain, except the King and Queen, earls, barons,

knights, their wives and children, archbishops, bishops, and other persons of holy Church, and such secular persons as can spend 40*l. per an.* of rents; cloth may be made of any length desired. "Et que gentz eient plus graunte volunte de laburrer sur les ouereignes des draps em (*sic*) Engleterre, Irlaund et Gales nous volums que totes gentz sachent que nous graunterums fraunchises covenables as folours, telers, teynturers, et as autres ouerurs des draps que de cest mester souereinement viuent quele hure que teles fraunchises nous soient demaundez. Et que graunte soit as marchauntz des leines que eux eient un maire des susdites estaples." No one to molest strangers in coming or going; otherwise the towns which they had visited to be answerable for damages and for capture of the malefactors. "Donetz a Kenylworthe le prime jour de May, lan de notre roialme dis et novisme."

c. 1300. See list of lost documents, *infra.*

1301, 25 Feb.—Inspeximus Charter of Edward I. reciting and confirming all the preceding charters to the city. Of these there are two original copies, one in beautiful and perfect condition, the other much mutilated and injured by damp. The latter is contained in a small black box. The great seals of both are enclosed in folds of paper, which consist partly of fragments of the records of the city court.

The Charter begins with the recital of the following grants from Henry II. which are not themselves extant.

i. "Omnibus Norensibus qui veniunt ad portum de Grimesby vel ad alios portus meos de Lincolnsire salutem. Precipio quod faciatis prepositis meis Linc. omnes rectitudines et consuetudines quas solebatis facere tempore Regis H. avi mei prepositis Linc. Et prohibeo ne quis vestrum detineat eis theloneum vel aliam consuetudinem injuste super decem librarum forisfacturam. T., W. filio Johannis apud Wirec[estriam]."

ii. "Precipio quod nullus mercator qui sit extraneus et deforis sit residens in Linc. pro tingendis pannis suis vel vendendis ad taleam nisi illi tantum qui sunt in gilda et ad omnes consuetudines ville et qui reddunt gelda mea cum eis sicuti solebant tempore H. Regis. T., Reg. comite Corn., H. de Essex constab., Ricardo de Humez."

iii. "Precipio quod omnes qui de mercato vivunt et mercatum deducunt infra quatuor divisas que pertinent civitati Linc. reddant communiter cum civibus meis Linc. gelda mea et assisas civitatis sicut reddere solent [*lege*, solebant] tempore Regis H. et sicut juste cum eis esse debent in cujuscunque terra maneant. T., Reg. com. Cornub., Henr. de Essex constab., Ricardo de Humez. Apud Notinge[ham]."

To the confirmation the following clauses are added:—"Et si forte iidem cives aliqua vel aliquibus libertatum in dictis cartis et literis contentarum hactenus plene usi non fuerunt, nichilominus volumus et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod iidem cives et successores sui predicti libertate vel libertatibus illis decetero gaudeant et utantur. Concessimus insuper pro nobis et heredibus nostris eisdem civibus quod ipsi et successores sui predicti imperpetuum sint quieti de muragio, panagio, pontagio, wharuagio, stallagio et terragio per totum regnum nostrum et totam terram ac potestatem nostram. Hiis testibus, venerabilibus patribus R. Cantuar. archiepiscopo, A. Dunelm., J. Linc., W. Coventr. et Lichfield, et J. Karliol. episcopis, Johanne de Warrenne Surr., Thoma Lancastr., Roger le Bigod Norff. Marescallo Angliæ, Guidone de Bello campo Warr., et Radulfo de Monte Hermerii Glouc. et Hertford comitibus, Johanne de Britannia, Johanne de Sancto Johanne, Johanne de Segrave, Reginaldo de Grey, Johanne de Hastinges, Waltero de Bello campo senescallo hospitii nostri, Petro de Tatintone, et aliis. Dat. per manum nostram apud Linc. vicesimo quinto die Februarii anno regni nostri vicesimo nono."

1318, 6 Dec. At York.—Confirmation by Edward II. of a license from Edward I. to the Dean and Chapter to enclose the precinct of the Cathedral Church with walls and gates, and to crenellate, on account of the nocturnal inroads of thieves and other evil-doers, causing frequent manslaughter, etc.; with the addition of license to raise the walls twelve feet higher and to make as many turrets as they please.

An office copy from the Public Records, made by George Holmes and attested by W. Harvey, 24 Feb. 1704.

1327, 5 Dec. At Leicester.—Writ *ad quod dampnum* from Edw. III. directed to Walter de Friskeny and Robert de Malberthorp, upon an application from the Dean and Chapter for a grant of the wall of the bailey and a part of the city wall, which are ruinous, that they may repair and crenellate them and use them for part of the enclose of the precinct.

An office copy from the Public Records, made by Geo. Holmes, and attested by W. Harvey. 24 Feb. 1704.

1330, 22 February.—Inspeximus by Edw. III. of his own Inspeximus charter of 7 Oct. 1327, at Nottingham,* reciting the Inspeximus of Edw. II. of June 1316, and adding further privileges. The great seal is sewn up in folds of paper, being fragments of a court-book of the city probably of the time of James 1. The first charter confirmed in the charter of Edw. II. is one of Henry II., which does not appear to be recited elsewhere. "H. [*etc.*] justiciariis et vicecomitibus suis de Lincolscire salutem. Sciatis me liberasse civitatem meam Lincoln. civibus meis ejusdem civitatis ad illam firman ad quam solebat esse tempore H. Regis avi mei, cum omnibus consuetudinibus et libertatibus eidem civitati pertinentibus in civitate ex extra. T., com. Reg. et War. fil. Ger. Datum apud Stanford." The charter of Edw. II. confirmed to the city the wool-tolls, and granted assize of bread and beer, and of weights and measures; and also granted "prefatis civibus vacuas et vastas placeas nostras in civitate et suburbio predictis, habendum sibi et heredibus ac succesoribus suis predictis imperpetuum ad commodum suum inde faciendum, prout sibi melius viderint expedire; ita tamen quod illud faciant absque dampno et prejudicio cathedralis ecclesie beate Marie Lincoln. et liberi tenentis cujuslibet alterius, et quod vici in eadem civitate et suburbio ea occasione nimium non arceantur." To this charter of Edw. II. that of Edw. III. in 1327 added that an inquisition having been held upon his command by Walter de Friskeneye, Robert de Malberthorpe, and Peter de Lodyngtone, in the presence of Thomas de Newmarket lately sheriff of Lincoln, and returned into the Chancery, respecting the privileges used by the mayor and citizens, all these are now confirmed, including markets on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday in each week, and a yearly fair extending from the feast of St. Botulph (17 June) to that of SS. Peter and Paul (29 June); also the profit of the buildings which they have erected on the city wall "ex transverso de Neulandeyate usque mansum fratrum de ordine Minorum," in divers places near Walkergate and Soper lane, with power to erect additional buildings; with criminal jurisdiction, authority for maintenance of the peace, etc.; that, as hitherto, a Burghmanmot be held weekly in the Guildhall by the mayor and bailiffs for the hearing of all local pleas. Of the annual rent to the Crown of 180*l.* eighty pounds are to be paid in half-yearly payments at the Exchequer. The Inspeximus of 1330 adds to this charter that whereas the judges of assize have, as the mayor and citizens say, frequently summoned to

* Of the charter of 1327 the Corporation possesses an office copy made in 1878 at the Public Record Office.

their courts pleas of assize about tenements in the city because such pleas were not specifically mentioned, therefore these as well as all others are now exclusively reserved to the Burghmanmot. Witnesses, the archbishop of Canterbury, the bishops of Ely and Lincoln, John of Eltham earl of Cornwall, Roger Mortimer earl of March, Henry de Percy John Mautravers steward of the household, and others, at Windsor, 22 Feb. *an.* 4. This charter was not in recent years known to be in existence.

1361, 28 Jan.—Exemplification by Edw. III., at the request of the Mayor, bailiffs and citizens of Lincoln, of the record of a case tried before Martin de Littlebury and his companions, the justices itinerant in Lincolnshire, on the morrow of the first Sunday after Easter 47 Hen. III. (1263). Peter of Savoy claimed 500*l.* damages from the city of Lincoln because that for 12 years they had exacted market-tolls from the men of his honour of Richmond, whereas all those men were exempt. The city replied that while King Hen. I. held the city in his own hands he exacted the same tolls of every one, and that when he gave the citizens seisin of the city at the annual rent of 180*l.*, he gave it with all the rights and privileges then used. The complainant replies that the right of taking tolls of his men could not have been among the rights thus conveyed, because the honour of Richmond had been free from the time of the Conquest. Finally, the parties agreed that the men of Richmond should be free of toll for all things born fed or grown within the limits of the honour, but should pay the same toll as others for any thing they may bring not thus exempted, and that for every ship coming with "helmerother" they shall pay twopence; and for every ship with "hauderother" one penny; this applying only to ships carrying merchandise first bought from others and then exposed to sale. The great seal is fastened up in paper.

The customary tolls levied at Lincoln are found from this record to have been these: for every horse bought or sold one penny, for every ox one halfpenny, for every cart twopence, for a ship fourpence, for 24 two-year-old sheep one penny, and for every quarter of corn one penny.

1377, Apr. 23.—See list of lost documents, *infra.*

1378, 16 March.—Inspeximus Charter of Rich. II. reciting and confirming the previous charters, and adding the clause, found also in some of those, that the non-use hitherto of any of the privileges granted in them shall not involve their loss. Witnesses, S. archbishop of Canterbury, bishops W. of London, A. of St. David's, Chancellor, Thomas of Exeter, Treasurer, H. of Carlisle, John King of Castile and Leon duke of Lancaster, Edmund earl of Cambridge, Thomas earl of Buckingham, (the King's uncles,) Richard earl of Arundell, Thomas Beauchamp earl of Warwick, Hugh earl of Stafford, Richard le Scrope, steward of the household, Guy de Briene, chamberlain, John de Fordham, keeper of the privy seal; Westm. 16 March *an.* 1. "Per peticionem de magno Consilio. Exam. per Rob. de Muscham et John de Burtone, clericos." The great seal is fastened within folds of paper cut from the records of the city court, as in preceding cases.

1379, May 10.—See list of lost documents, *infra.*

1380, 18 Apr. at Westm.—Inspeximus by Richard II. of the exemplification by Edw. III. of the record of the case between Peter of Savoy and the city. See under 1361, *supra.* "Exam. per Ric. de Holme et Joh. de Lincoln, clericos." The great seal, in green wax, is nearly perfect; but the impression is poor.

1390, 17 Oct.—Inspeximus by Rich. II. (*an.* 14) of an indenture of agreement (in French) between the Dean and Chapter and the Mayor and citizens upon a decree and award made by John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, as to the exemption of the cathedral close from all civic jurisdiction, and of a release made hereupon by the city; both dated 12 June 1390.

This is a copy made towards the end of the 17th century.

1409, 21 Nov.—Charter of Hen. IV. reciting and confirming the Inspeximus of Rich. II. in 1378, and adding these additional privileges: the election of two sheriffs instead of bailiffs, the city to be called the county of the city of Lincoln and the Mayor to be the King's Escheator, power to render accounts to the King's Exchequer by attorney, the Mayor and Sheriffs with four others to be justices of the peace, with defined jurisdiction, a yearly fair beginning fifteen days before the feast of the deposition of St. Hugh [17 Nov.] and continuing for fifteen days after, and the receipt in aid of the payment of the city rent of 180*l.* of the annual rent of 6*l.* paid to the Crown by the weavers of Lincoln; strictly and fully reserving the exemption from the jurisdiction of the city of the cathedral church, the close, and the Dean and Chapter. Witn., the archbishops of Cant. and York, the bishops of London, Durham, and Bath and Wells, Edward duke of York, John earl of Somerset, chamberlain, John Typtot, treasurer, master John Prophete keeper of the Privy Seal, and John Stanley, steward of the household. At Westm., 21 Nov. *an.* 11. "Exam. per Joh. Roderham et Ric. Bolton, clericos." The great seal (green wax, broken) is fastened up in folds of blank paper.

1414, 15 Dec.—Inspeximus by Henry V. of the preceding charter of Hen. IV. Witn. archbishop of Canterbury, bishop of Winchester the King's uncle and chancellor, the bishop of Norwich, Thomas duke of Clarence, John duke of Bedford, Humphrey duke of Gloucester, his brothers, Edward duke of York, Thomas earl of Arundel, treasurer, Richard earl of Warwick, Sir Henry Fitzhugh, chamberlain, Sir Thomas Erpyngham, steward of the household, master John Prophete, keeper of the privy seal. At Westm. 15 Dec. *an.* 2. "Exam. per John Frank et Will. Aghton, clericos." Great seal in green wax, broken.

1424–5.—Copies, on one membrane, of the Statutes made at Westminster and Leicester 3 and 4 Hen. VI.

Statutes at large, 1786, vol. I. pp. 472–4.

1424, 24 Jan.—Inspeximus by Henry VI. of the charter of Hen. V. in 1414. "Teste me ipso apud Westm." *an.* 2. "Exam. per Joh. Mapiltone et Nich. Wymbyssh, clericos." Part of the great seal, green wax.

1438, 6 Sept.—See Registers, vol. I. *infra.*

1439, 25 July.—Writ from Hen. VI. to the judges of assize in Lincolnshire, commanding them to permit the Mayor and citizens of Lincoln to enjoy without interruption the privileges with regard to the trial of causes formerly granted to the mayor and bailiffs. "Teste me ipso apud Dogmersfeld, xxv die Julii an. r. n. decimo septimo." This is sewn to the charter of Hen. V. in 1414.

1441, 26 Feb.—See Registers, vol. I. *infra.*

1447, 13 March.—License from Hen. VI. to the Mayor and citizens to acquire lands, tenements and rents to the value of 120*l. per an.*, and exonerating them from all payment of tenths and fifteenths for the

period of forty years. This is granted on the petition of John Ratheby, mayor, and the citizens, setting forth that, whereas they are bound to an annual payment of 180*l.*, and have also to pay at every time of levying a fifteenth and tenth 100*l.*, they are so depauperized by the withdrawal of merchants and by a great pestilence which has continued there for a long time and other worldly misfortunes, that scarcely 200 citizens remain in the city, and not one of them can bear the burden of the annual payment, notwithstanding that the King by authority of Parliament has relieved them from some part of the payment of the tenths and fifteenths. Great seal, green wax, broken.

1456, 24 Nov.—License from Hen. VI., in pursuance of his license in 1447 for acquisition of lands in mortmain, to John Markham, justice C.P., William Stanlowe and Joan his wife, John Busshby esq., Richard Hillingworth, Thomas Folkingham sen., Peter Idley esq., William Rither, John Waldeff, Nicholas Stathum, Thomas Ryby, chaplain, and Robert Peny of Lincoln, to convey to the mayor and citizens the manor of Canwyk with two shillings of rent in Braunstone, and also to William and Joan Stanlowe, John Berkestone chaplain, and Thomas Folkyngham, to convey one messuage, four tofts, ninety acres of land, sixteen of meadow, and one hundred of pasture, in Canwyk, which belonged to the late Alexander Hervy and are held of the Crown in chief; of which, by an inquisition taken before William Grymesby, late escheator, the manor and rent extend to twenty shillings, and the rest to thirteen shillings and four pence, as part of the value of 120*l.* licensed to be obtained. "Pro quinque marcis solutis in hanaperio. Kirkeham." Great seal, green wax, broken.

1463, Aug. 29.—See list of lost documents, *infra*.

1463, 11 Dec.—Inspeximus by Edward IV. of the preceding license in 1447 of Hen. VI. "nuper de facto et non de jure Regis Anglie." "Teste me ipso apud Dancastre," *an.* 3. "Pro decem libris solutis in hanaperio. Exam. per Will. Morland et Hen. Upton, clericos." Good impression of great seal in white wax, broken in the rim. [Enrolled in the Memoranda of the Exchequer.]

1466, 15 Feb.—Charter of Edw. IV.: see the following Charter of 1484. A copy of this is also in the "White Book," *infra*.

1484, 30 Nov. at Westm.—Inspeximus by Rich. III. of a charter from Edw. IV. of 15 Feb. 1466, in which after reciting and confirming the charter of Hen. VI. of 24 Jan. 1424, by authority of Parliament held on 4 Nov. 1461, it was granted to the Mayor Thomas Grantham and the citizens, in relief of the desolation and ruin which had come upon the city, that the villages of Braunstone, Wadyngtone, Bracebrigge and Canwik should be separated from the county and annexed to the county of the city, with the transfer of all jurisdiction of sheriffs etc., that all their inhabitants should contribute to scot and lot and all the charges of the city, and none be allowed to dwell within the liberties of the city who should refuse so to do. There were also granted a large number of quit-rents paid to the Crown from various houses in the city, many of which had belonged to Jews, and which are all specified in detail. In the list the following names of Jews are found: Ursell Levy of Wickford in the parish of St. Mark, whose name occurs thrice; Diabella, a Jewess, condemned for felony, whose name occurs four times; Bealesset or Belasset, of Wallingford, a Jewess also condemned for felony, five times; Hagin son of Benedict, of Lincoln, and Agnu or Agni daughter of Benedict, one of whose houses is said to have come to the King's hands by the exile of Benedict; Jacob Levi in

the parish of St. Benedict; Floria of London a Jewess of Lincoln, in the parishes of St. Martin and St. Cuthbert; Juda, in the bailly; Benedict le Count in the parish of St. John called "la poure"; Jacob Brauncegate, in the parish of St. George; Jocey Gabias, in the parish of St. Michael-on-the-hill; Salomon of London, in the parish of St. Martin and in Brauncegate; Manser de Bradeworth in the parish of St. George; Jocey of Colchester; Benedict of London, in Brauncegate; Hagin Calf; Elias Gaboys. Besides these there is a rent of 2*s.* partly from the burial-ground of the Jews, and 19*d.* paid by the bailiffs from various Jews' houses not specified. The charter goes on to grant the goods and chattels of felons and outlaws, with fines, forfeitures, waifs and strays, and treasure trove. For this confirmation by Rich. III., which fills three large membranes. 26*s.* 8*d.* were paid in the hanaper. The great seal (green wax, broken) is enclosed in folds of paper.

1484, Dec. 2.
1509, May 28. } See list of lost documents, *infra.*

1515, 24 Oct.—Inspeximus by Henry VIII. reciting and confirming an Inspeximus of Hen. VII. of 8 July, 1498, *an.* 14. This is on four membranes, slightly mutilated and discoloured through exposure to damp, and is in its original leather-covered box. The great seal, in fragments, is attached in a tin box, with one lid of an outer box.

1546, *an.* 38, 11 Dec.—Charter of Henry VIII. granting to the city for relief of their burdens, and in consideration of the sum of 135*l.* 14*s.* 3½*d.* paid to the Treasurer of the Court of Augmentations, the advowsons and rectories of Hanslape, Bucks, and Hemyswell, Surflett and Beltone, Linc., saving the present incumbencies of Robert Bone rector of Hanslape, Roger Norton rector of Hemyswell, William Clyfton rector of Surflett, and John Pope rector of Beltone. The vicars appointed by the city are to be bound to residence, and each to have a fit dwelling-house, "unacum curtilagiis, ortis, pomeriis et gardinis eidem domui spectantibus," with stipends of 13*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* for Hanslape and 11*l.* for the other parishes. Two membranes, with the great seal enclosed in a paper case. The initial letter contains an outline portrait of the King on his throne, with the inscription "Vivat Rex."

1549, *an.* 3, 13 May.—Exemplification by Edw. VI. of an Act passed in the second session of the Parliament held Nov. 1547.—Nov. 1548 for the union of certain parishes in the city of Lincoln. "Where[as] in the auncient citie of Lincolne and the suburbes of the same there are many parishe churches the benefyts whereof, for that the same parisshes were well peopled, were good and honest lyvinge for lerned incumbents and personnes of the same, by reason of privie tythes of the rich marchaunts, clothyers, artyficers, and of the offrynges of a great multitude of people within the same parisshes, whiche lyvynges are now soo much decayed by the great ruyne and decay of the said citie and of the trade of clothmaking and merchaundise there that the revenues and profittes of dyvers the said benefices there are at this present not above the clere yerely value of thirtie shillinges, so that a great sort of these are not a competent and honest lyving for a good curate, and no personne wil take the cure of them, but that of povertie and necessitie there are some late religious personnes being stipendaries taken and appoynted to serve the said cures and benefices, whiche for the most parte are unlerned and verie ignoraunte personnes not able to do any parte of there dueties; by reason whereof the said citie is not only replenisshed with blynde guydes and pastours, but also the people very muche kept in ignorance and blyndnes as well of their dueties toward almightie God as also the Kinges maiestie their soueraigne lord, and the commen wealthe of this

realme, and to the great daungier of their soules," therefore it shall be lawful for the Ordinary, with the Mayor, Recorder, and Justices of the peace, within six years after this session of Parliament, to unite parishes, so that the yearly value of any one shall not exceed 14*l.*, to pull down superfluous churches, and to use the materials for repair of others, &c.; with reservation to dispossessed incumbents of a third part of the profits of their benefice, and the saving of all existing rights of others. Fragment of the great seal, in white wax.

1596, *an.* 39, 13 Dec.—Charter from Q. Elizabeth, granting that, whereas questions have arisen as to the power of the Mayor and the Town Clerk, otherwise called the Mayor's Clerk, to take recognizances of debts according to the form of the statutes of Acton Burnell and of Merchants, it shall be lawful for them so to do; and after the death of Leonard Carre, the present Town Clerk, his successors shall be Clerks of the Crown for such recognizances, which are to be sealed with a seal to be called the Queen's seal (or seal of the Crown). The initial letter has an outline sketch of the Queen, with "Vivat Regina." Of a beautiful impression, in brown wax, of the great seal only a portion remains.

The original leather box in which the charter is contained is lined with fragments of a curious black-letter chap-book apparently relating to some astrological or fortune-telling game with dice. There are headings "Aristotelus philosopher" "Socrates philosopher," with heads of Agamemnon, etc., and then, under various throws of dice, many such inscriptions as these, "Go to Venus, to the Spirit Rada; go to Mercurius, to the Spirit Efra; goe to y^e^ Sunne, to the Spirit Mara."

1608, 26 Nov.—Letters of commission from James I. appointing commissioners, in pursuance of a statute made 43 Eliz., to enquire concerning all gifts assigned at any time for charitable purposes of every kind within the city and county of Lincoln, and into all abuses and breaches of trust of the same. Great seal lost.

1628, *an.* 4, 18 Dec.—Charter of incorporation by Charles I. (under which the city was governed until 1834) establishing the Common Council, with thirteen aldermen, four coroners, four chamberlains, etc., and regulating modes of procedure and jurisdiction; with reservation of the rights of the bishop, the dean and chapter, and the lord of the liberty of Bemon fee, and also saving "nobis et heredibus nostris in jure ducatus nostri Lancastriæ castro nostro Lincoln. ac fossatis et muris ejusdem infra et extra cum omnibus suis membris, visu franci plegii et quicquid ad visum franci plegii pertinet, et omnibus libertatibus privilegiis et franchesiis eidem pertinentibus." The initial letter has the customary outline portrait, with the motto "Carolus Rex." Only one half of the great seal remains, with the view of London and the greyhound. Four membranes. In a box.

1684, *an.* 36, 17 Dec.—Charter granted by Charles II. after the surrender by the city of their previous charters on 18 Oct. 1684, renewing the former privileges, enlarging powers of jurisdiction with regard to unlawful assemblies, conventicles, etc., granting a four-days' fair, and a weekly market on Tuesdays, with the same clauses of reservation as in the charter of Charles I.; but naming the mayor and all other officers, and reserving to the Crown power, by order in Privy Council, to remove all or any, at the King's free will and pleasure. On six membranes, with beautifully engraved arabesque borders containing shields of the royal arms, and a fine portrait of the King. Only fragments of the great seal remain. In a box.

1696, *an.* 8, 22 July.—Grant by William III. of a horse and cattle fair to be held yearly on the first Wednesday in September and two days following. With engraved portrait of the King, and engraved border. Only a small fragment of the seal remains.

List of Charters, &c. in existence a few years ago but now missing.

1. *Circa* 1300.—"Provisions" for the government of the city, "on a vellum membrane," with the Great Seal. Ross's *Civitas Lincolnia*, pp. 12–13.

2. 1377, Apr. 23.—Letters patent of Edward III. exemplifying a judgment given in favour of the privileges of the city in a case with the abbot of Tupholme in 1340, and a *post mortem inq.* on the death of Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln in 1311; with the Great Seal. *Ibid.* pp. 17–18.

3. 1379, May 10.—Letters patent of Richard II. exemplifying a judgment in a suit at Westminster respecting property in the city; with the Great Seal. *Ibid.* pp. 12–20.

4. 1463, Aug. 29.—Letters patent of Edward IV. acquitting the city from payment of 100*l.*, part of the fee-farm rent to the Crown of 180*l.*, "on one large membrane"; with the Great Seal. *Ibid.* pp. 23–4.

5. 1484, Dec. 2.—Letters patent of Richard III., incorporating in the city the villages of Washingborough, Heighington, Fiskerton, Greetwell, Burton-juxta-Lincoln, and Cherry Willingham; granting an additional fair, with a court of Pie-poudre; &c. *Ibid.* pp. 27–8.

6. 1509, May 28.—General pardon to the citizens from Henry VIII.; with the Great Seal. *Ibid.* p. 29–30.

[Besides the notices of the foregoing charters, Mr. Ross's book contains also abstracts of others, taken from the enrolments in the Record Office.]

II.—MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS.

Temp. Edw. II. ?—Regulations made by the City of Lincoln for the wool trade. Very clearly written on a parchment to which the seal of the city was once attached, but of which seal only long green silk cords with tassels now remain as the tokens.

"[P] urueu est, ordinéé* et establi par le Commun Cunsail de la Cite de Nicole pur lenprument nostre seigniour le Rey de Engleterre de sa custume de leynes et pur le profit de meismes la Cite, ke les leynes de Lyndeseye, de Kesteuen et du Clay soient ensemblemys ensem vendues. Et les leynes de autre paiis oueokes les leynes auandites ne soient medleez en nule maniere. Mes soient celes laynes vendues chescun par sey, ke point en ad pur tele que ele est. Et ky le face et soit atteynt, les Baylifs de la Cite prendrunt a chescun sack xx sol., la moyte a la féérme le Rey, et lautre moyte a les Cytezeines pur les fraunchises mayntenyr. Uncor est ordinéé des meismes ceous qe nul face trier ne ne horsprendre la bone leyne de la meene. Mes ausi come il la chat en le paiis, issi la mustre as marchaunds, et ensi soit vendue en cuche et en sack sur meismes la payne auandite. Uncor est ordinéé qe nul mar-

* The accents are here given as found in the MS.

chaund de la Cite de laynes de Lindeseye, de Ketsteuen (*sic*) et du Clay ne face mettre par luy ne par nul autre en cuche ne en sack coth ne garth ne vylain tuysun sur la payne auandite. Ne ke nul de la Cyte ne autre vende layne a forain marchand, si noun par la trone le Roy. Et ky le fet et soit atteynt, le Baylif prendre a chescune pierre douz deners en la furme auandite. Des forayns marchaunds venaunz en la Cyte, est ordinéé ke par la ou il achat laynes et enport la clef de la meisone ou la layne gist cum custume est des marchaunds, ke cele leyne soit la sowe cum son propre chatel sanz cuntredit del vendur ou del achatur. Et si nul destaunz ou conteck soit entre eous aul packer de la layne, soient les choses adrescez et les defautes amendez, si poynt en a, par la vewe de prohdesomes [*prudhommes*] ke a ceo sunt assignez, ordine et iurez par la Communaute. De ceous ke achatent peaus de berbiz de la feste seinte Margarete [20 *July*] desques a la seint Michel, purveu est et ordinee as tiele leyne desor enauaunt soit venduc cum auncienemcnt fust; ceo est a sauoyr cum leyne qe est apeléé *Crake-pullynge* et *Cobbyngwolle*. Et ke nul de la Cyte tele layne oueock layne cullie de la seint Michel en auaunt ne face mettre ne medler en tuyson, en cuche ne en sack. Et ky le fet et soit atteynt, a la primere fiey la layne serra foringéé a la furme le Rey et a les Cytezeyns par ouwel porciun. Et al autre fiez, la layne serra ars a ses custages deuaunt sa meisone, cum chose atteynte de fausine. Purveu est ensement ke nul de la Cyte mustre ne vende laynes en les seysons del an a nul forayn marchaund, gesques ataunt ke les Cytezeyns éént ordinéé et purueu ke bon est a fere endroit de lur marchandises pur le pru le Rey et la Cyte, ceo est a sauoir ke le iour des Innocens serra lassembléé afere la purueyaunce pur la marchaundie del hyuer, et la iour de seint Austyn [26 *May*] pur la esteé. Et si nul se absent et ne vient mye al assembléé a les iouz auant nomez, soit amercie a demymark cum est auandit, et sa le meyns la chose qe serra ordineé serra estable ausi bien pur les absenz cum pur les presenz. Et si nule face mustrer ou vendre encuntre la furme auandite, le Baylif prendra a chescon sack xx sol. cum est auant-dit. Des abbrokeurs est purueu et ordinee ke ceus ke sunt de la Cyte soient jurez en tiele furme ke il serrunt feaus et liaus au Rey et a la Cyte, et ke il liaument celerunt le conseil et les priuetez de la Cyte, et nul marchaund forayn pur marchander hors de la Cyte ameurount, et ke nul abbrokeur achate nule manere de merz de nul forain marchand, fors al oes les Cytezens de la Cyte, sauue les choses tuicchaunz la feerme le Roy, et qe la ou il trouent leynes en cuche ou hors de cuche suspecinuse, encontre la furme auandite, facent a sauoir au Gardayn ou au Mair ou as Baylifs. Et purueu est ke tuz ces poinz auandiz soient leuz et puppliez apertement dous fiez par an, ceo est asauoir le iour des Innocenz et de seint Austyn, ke nul de la Cyte les articles auant nomeez purra desdire."

1455, 34 Hen. VI., 10 Sept.—A very long indenture of an agreement between the Abbot and convent of St. Mary at York and the Mayor and citizens of Lincoln, respecting lands claimed by the former as belonging to their cell of B. Mary Magd. Lands conveyed to the city (minutely described with their boundaries) are called Bagerholm-wong, Seynthughcroft, Styntes, le Hempgarth, with all the lands, tene-ments, marshes, &c. extending from the south east corner of Calcroft to the south east corner of Berige close, and at le Blakedike, with rights of way, power to fell trees, enclose, wall, &c. Lands conveyed to the abbey are a meadow on the east side of Blakedike, a marsh and lands on the east side of Lincoln, and a lane and land below the walls on the site of the cell on the south side; paying for the lane 3*s*. 4*d*. annually.

Among the boundaries mentioned are, Blakedikestone; the water of Wythom; Oldebagerholmegate; Grenepasture; Inland; Gretewelle; a stone cross near Gretewellegate called Stubcros; Seyntjohneswong; a stone newly fixed called le Monks' stone; a windmill called Wayermylne; a stone wall called Chiviot wall; Snyke- (*and* Sneke-) dyke wall; the land of the Master of the Hospital of H. Innocents; Sparowe lane; Fynkelstrete; a stone wall *lately* belonging to the friars *lately* called Sekfreris [*i.e.* Fratres de Sacco] called le Stamp; a causeway called Stampcause; a stone in Bagerholmwonge called Butstone. Blanks are left for some measurements of land which have not been filled in. The seal of the abbey is lost.

1536, 20 May.—Bond from "Tomas" earl of Rutland in 2000*l.* that he will abide by the arbitrament of Sir Thomas Audeley, knt. Lord Chancellor, and master Thomas Cromwell, Chief Secretary to the King, concerning the rent of 100*l.* which he claims from the city.

1554, 17 March.—Indenture of sale by John Broxolme, esq., of the Inner Temple, London, to the Mayor and Commonalty of Lincoln for the sum of 81*l.* of his moiety of a rent of 4*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* from the lands and tenements of the late gild of St. Anne, which was granted to him and Thomas Burton, esq. by Sir John Thynne, knt., and Thomas Throgmorton, esq., who had it by grant from K. Edw. VI. dated 19 May, 1549.

1558, 4 July.—Release from Henry, earl of Rutland, to the Mayor, &c. of Lincoln, for the sum of 400 marks, and in exchange for the rectory and parsonage of Surflet with the advowson, of the annual rent of 100*l.* payable to him from the city.

1569–1577, 11–19 Eliz.—A parcel of eighteen deeds relating to the conveyance of property from Thomas Grantham to the city of Lincoln.

1574, 10 Dec.—Indenture of agreement between Robert Mounson, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, and the Mayor and Commonalty of Lincoln, whereby the former—in consideration of the grant to him of the parsonage of Hanslope, Bucks, for divers years, and in order that the latter may ever hereafter the more quietly have and enjoy a conduit or watercourse lately in question, and also for the desire that the said Robert Mounson hath towards the maintenance of a free grammar school in perpetuity, if the said mayor, etc., shall so think it good, as they do well and charitably intend it hereafter if they may,—covenants to convey to feoffees the site and precinct of the Grey Friars in Lincoln, with all the houses, etc., to the same belonging; reserving the use to himself for his life or for twenty years.

1575, 23 Oct.—Deed of sale by Stephen Trymylby, esq., and Katherine his wife to William Goodknappe, Martin Mason, John Wylson, Edmund Knyght, and Thomas Hanson, of all the cottages lands and tenements lately belonging to the gild of St. Mary in Wigford.

1576, 18 Jan.—Conveyance of the same by the said William Goodknappe, etc. to the Mayor, etc. and commonalty of Lincoln.

1585, 22 Sept.—Indenture of articles of agreement, by arbitration, between the Mayor and citizens of Lincoln and Robert Smith of the Black Monks near the city, respecting a watercourse and conduit passing through the grounds of the said Robert Smith to the city, and the conduit-pipes, with various lands called the Monks' Leas, the Green Pasture, &c., belonging to the late cell of the Black Monks, parcel of

the possessions of the dissolved monastery of St. Mary at York. Signed and sealed by Edward earl of Rutland as umpire and judge as well as by the parties.

1592.—Fragment, consisting of eight small quarto leaves, of a book of orders made in 1591 and 1592 respecting a knitting school established by the city, as follows:—

1591, 11 June.—Alderman Morley appointed overseer.

—— 8 Oct.—Seven persons who had been appointed to confer with John Cheseman, the Knitter, draw up certain rules, which are confirmed. Cheseman, in consideration of 6*l.* being given him to discharge his debts, undertakes to set on work in his science all such as are willing to come to him or are sent by the aldermen, and to hide nothing from them that belongeth to the knowledge of the said science. A competent number of discreet women or men to be found for the purpose of learning. Forty stone of wool to be provided; Cheseman weekly to take two stone, paying for the previous week's supply. As many wheels as are needful to be provided. Scholars offending by absence or otherwise to be punished as the offence requireth, at the discretion of such as shall be appointed. Four aldermen to be overseers. Cheseman's stipend to continue according to the agreement made at his first coming to the city.

1592, 28 July.—Forty stone of wool to be provided.

—— 4 Aug.—Articles of agreement made at the Knitters' house in St. Saviourgate between John Cheseman and Francis Newby. 1. The said Newby and Jane his wife shall daily repair to Cheseman's house to learn his trade of knitting, spinning, dressing of wool, and keeping his mill, until well instructed, and shall not absent themseves without leave. 2. Cheseman to instruct them after the best manner he can. 3. The said Francis and Jane to have the oversight and teaching of thirty scholars for this first year, to see that they do make their work, and work according to their pattern. 4. Cheseman to pay the said Francis and Jane for the first year 40*s.* 5. The said Francis to have twopence paid him by Cheseman for every pair of stockings made by the said scholars; and for every pair which the said Jane or any servant that she shall hire shall work, being well fashioned, as much as Cheseman doth give to any other. 6. The said Francis and Jane shall have the benefit and commodity of amending and footing all stockings which shall be brought unto them to be amended or footed.

—— The same day it is agreed to pay the Knitter 16*s.* 8*d.* for ten wheels which he hath provided, and which he is to maintain; and the overseers arrange to visit by turns, two every three weeks.

Temp. Eliz.—Inventory of furniture in Metcalf's house called the "Sarzin's Head," assigned over to Stephen Mason as security for a debt due to Mr. Robert Chapman of Hull and Mr. Thomas Enderbie. There are fifteen rooms, with a gallery, and outhouses.

—— —— Petition to Sir Peter Warburton, knt., and Sir Thomas Foster, knt., justices of assize in the county of Lincoln, from the bakers serving the prisoners with bread in the gaol of Lincoln, craving order to be taken for their payment or else to be released from baking. The allowance is 40*l.* a year, at one penny a day for each prisoner, but the deliverance comes to 60*l.*, the town of Louth refuses to pay any thing, the petitioners are put to great charge in gathering it in the

parts of Lindsey, and one Mr. Rossiter who hath a great town in his possession refuseth to give any allowance.

[The two preceding papers were taken out of a roll of paper enveloping the seal of one of the royal charters.]

1588–1591, } Rolls of recognizances of debts, in accordance with the
1609–1629. } stat. *De mercatoribus*, from 30 to 33 Eliz. and from 7 Jas. I. to 5 Chas. I. One fragment of a roll of 1693 is included.

1632, 2 May.—Deed of gift by Sir William Ellis, knt., of an annuity of 10*l.* 8*s.* from lands in Swinthorp in the parish of Snelland; for the payment of twelve pence weekly to four poor widows, one to be the widow of a vicar or singing-man of the cathedral, and the others widows of freemen, who frequent divine service and sermons on the sabbath days, and can distinctly say without book in the English tongue the Lord's Prayer, the articles of the Belief and the Ten Commandments; no one of them to be a brewer of ale or beer to sell, or an alehouse keeper, or a tippler of beer, or to usually beg, or to keep in her house any servant, child, or other person that shall usually go on begging.

Cent. xvii.—"A booke of the precinctes and privileges to his Majesties castle and baile of Lincolne." Nine leaves, containing translations of an inquisition made 36 Edw. III. (1362); a plea in the time of Rich. II. (year omitted) on the part of John of Gaunt *v.* the Mayor, bailiffs, &c.; a writ from Edw. III. for exemption of all the lands and men of Henry [Plantagenet] earl of Lancaster from tolls, etc.; with the bounds and privileges of the bailey.

1684–1718.—A parcel of documents relating to the Jersey School for the employment of the poor in knitting and spinning, as follows:—

1684, 4 Sept.—Agreement with Joseph Newton to come to Lincoln to be the master, at a yearly salary of 30*l.* for the first three years and 20*l.* afterwards, with house rent-free, and 100*l.* for stock.

1687, 1 May.—Agreement with John Ashley at 20*l.* a year.

1688, 6 July.—Copy of the will of Henry Stone, esq., of Skellingthorpe, bequeathing 700*l.*

1705, 12 Nov.—Agreement with Joseph Doughty to come to Lincoln, at a salary of 35*l.* a year.

1718, 26 June.—Agreement with John Hooton at a salary of 30*l.*

[1704.]—Copy of the case of the Dean and Chapter against the city, with regard to arrests within the Close and the licensing of alehouses; and of the opinion of counsel thereon.

1714–1737.—A folio volume contains the accounts of the Foss-dyke tolls. This is interesting as affording evidence of the amount of trade by water during this period; a large proportion being for coals and ale from the Trent. The volume forms part of a parcel of documents relating to the Foss-dyke, of which the earliest are, an agreement for a table of tolls in pursuance of an Act of Parliament for improving the navigation between Boston and the river Trent, dated 10 Oct. 1671; and an agreement with Samuel Fortrey, esq. of St. Martin's in the Fields, Middlesex, "a person well versed and expert in affairs of that nature," that he and his heirs shall have one third part of the profits of the tolls in return for his assistance in carrying out the improvements, and the maintenance of a bridge in the town of Saxilby, and his bearing one third part of charges and losses, dated 24 Apr. 1672.

1736, 4 Feb.—License from Richard [Smalbroke] bishop of Lincoln for the taking in of a small part of the churchyard of St. Peter at Arches, "wherein no corpse hath been known to be interred," for the enlargement of the new intended market-house, paying an annual quit-rent of 2*s.* to the parish; with a ground-plan, and a letter from the bishop to the mayor.

1736, 29 Dec.—Agreement by Daniel Coppin of Boston to make a complete set of chimes for eight bells, with twenty hammers for two tunes, to be set up in the steeple of St. Peter's church at the expense of the Corporation, for 80*l.* (Enclosed with the preceding license.)

[*c.* 1740.]—Case of the city with regard to the claim of persons residing within the Close to the freedom of the city; with questions for counsel.

[*c.* 1740.]—Draft of a similar case of the city with regard to persons within the bailiwick of the castle; by Wm. Gylby, of Grays' Inn, [Recorder of the city].

1785.—A very excellent abstract of the royal charters with notes, and a list of all the existing books of record and papers, was drawn up by Samuel Lyon, Town-clerk, in 1785. This exists in his original MS., and also in a very neatly written transcript. The original, together with the account of the charities described in the following article, was presented to the Corporation by Mr. Lyon in 1797, with a letter dated at Canwick on Oct. 23, which is entered at p. 863 of vol. VIII. of the Registers. Mr. Lyon had resigned his office in 1790, and thanks were given him on Sept. 14 in that year for his indefatigable attention to the duties of his office which he had long held with honour to himself and satisfaction to the Corporation; and one hundred guineas were voted for presenting him with a gold cup, but this he declined as being already sufficiently gratified.

1786.—"A particular account of all the charitys and charity estates in which the Corporation of Lincoln, or any members thereof in their corporate capacitys, have any interest or concern; with the annual income arising from each, and the present mode of distributing the same; as also, with a schedule annexed of all the wills, deeds, and writings in the possession of the Corporation relating thereto; made out from original records or other evidences, in the month of August, 1786, by Sam. Lyon, Town-Clerk of the city of Lincoln."

This very carefully drawn-up account occupies 51 pages in a folio book; it specifies where the several records are to be found, and subjoins to a list of the documents relating to Christ's Hospital in Lincoln this note, "All the above particulars under this title were delivered to Mr. Bell in order to be deposited in the Hospital chest in the Hospital house, in which there are already some other writings."

1798.—"A particular survey book of the old inclosures and field lands in the parish of Belton in the county of Lincoln." A quarto volume containing minute particulars of every portion of land in the parish arranged under the owners' names alphabetically. This is an interesting local record, and gives all the old field-names. It was prepared by a surveyor named Teale, in accordance with an order of Common Council of Feb. 14, 1798. There are, of course, many documents, such as leases and conveyances, relating to this parish among the records, as also with regard to the other parishes of which the Corporation possesses the advowsons.

III.—CHAMBERLAINS' ROLLS.

The Chamberlains' parchment Rolls of Account unfortunately only commence at the year 1685–6,* but from that date, with the exception of the two years next following, they are nearly complete up to the time of the Municipal Reform Act.

1685–6.—For the cover of the new velvet hat, 5*s.*

For new velvet for a new scabbard for the mourning sword, and for gilding the handle of the said sword, embroidering the scabbard, and carriage down. 50*s.* 6*d.*

For the making of a new ducking stool, 55*s.* 8*d.*

For a new chair for the ducking stool, 4*s.*

1695–6.—Spent on Serjeant Saul and the soldiers when the rabble was up, 14*s.*

For putting the reception of the King when he came into the city in the Gazette, 15*s.*

To the King's Surveyor general, the King's coachmen, and the King's cooks, when the King came to this city, 11*l.* 13*s.*

[Various payments on the same occasion to the Newark waits and the city waits, and for links, candles, a bonfire, ale, cleaning the streets, &c.]

1699–1700.—For ale, tobacco, pipes, candles, and "kidds" for a bonfire on the news of the King's safe landing from Holland, 49*s.* 2*d.*

For meat, drink, wine, and several other things for a dinner to the Bishop of Lincoln, 18*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

For eight Turkey-work chairs for the city's house, 48*s.*

For an engine for burning prisoners in the cheek, 10*s.*

1702–3.—For a hogshead of ale upon the news of Prince "Vgieon" (!), 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

1709–10.—Spent upon three French prisoners, 2*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

1710–11.—Paid Mr. Hunton for refreshing the "pickters" in the Town Hall and writing the sentences and whitening the Hall, 7*l.* 2*s.*

1727–8.—To the trustees [for the rebuilding the church of St. Peter-at-Arches] for the painting the chancel [*i.e.*, an altar piece by Damini, an Italian who painted some fresco-portraits in the Cathedral], 75*l.*

1728–9.—To Mr. Rudhall [of Gloucester, for a peal of eight bells for the same church], 381*l.* 16*s.*

To Abr. Hayward for land carriage of the bells and his journey, 20*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

To John Motley for carriage of bells by water, 10*l.*

[The cost of the bell-frames was about 84*l.*]

1746–7.—Expended at the Townhall on the 9th day of October 1746, on account of the victory over the rebels at Culloden. 23*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

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* A fragment of the account for 1481–2 is mentioned by Ross, *ubi supra* p. 85.

IV.—REGISTERS.

The Registers, extending from 1421 to the present time (with the blank hereafter noted), are contained in thirteen folio volumes, in good preservation. But the actual continuous record of municipal proceedings only commences at the year 1511.

I. The earliest Register is contained in a thick folio volume consisting now of 320 vellum leaves, (of which ff. 235–40, 260–73, and 306–16 are blank) which is called (from its once white leather binding), on the last fly-leaf, the "Whyt Boke." This begins at the year 1421, and its contents, extending to 1729, are as follows:—

"Ordines [*sc.* ordinationes] feriæ" f. 1^{b}.

Extract from the episcopal register of bishop Grosteste of the admission of Robert de Hanney to the vicarage of Hanslape with the chapelry of Castlethorpe, with specification of its endowment; 8 Feb. *an.* 18 f. 2.

"Ordinatio pro bona gubernacione sigilli communis ; 13 Nov. 1421, with the names of all the burgesses, in number 238, who attended the "communis congregacio totius communitatis" f. 2^{b}. Followed by a proclamation that all writings sealed henceforward contrary to this ordinance were to be cancelled.

Ordinances made 21 Apr. 1422, with like list of names, f. 3^{b}. Amongst these orders is one that no mercer should sell any boots ("caligas"), under the heavy penalty of ten marks; no doubt, to prevent interference with the trade of the cordwainers. That the mayor should have allowance for only two servants, viz., his macebearer and clerk, and livery for three minstrels at eight shillings each, and eight shillings for a common messenger should such an one be employed. Another order is about the enrolling of apprentices.

1423, 14 Sept.—Orders regulating the election of mayor, and that no common carter should carry anything in iron-bound carts over the city pavement under a penalty of 3*s.* 4*d.*, f. 5.

1436. Extract from the Plea-rolls of a trial at Westminster involving a question of jurisdiction, in Hilary term, 1436, respecting a strange riot in the Cathedral, f. 6^{b}.

"—— extitit præsentatum quod Thomas Cokayne, capellanus, Nicholaus Bradborne, gentilman, Thomas Atkyn, notary, Laurencius Marsshall, yoman, Petrus Marsshall, yoman, Ricardus Knyght, yoman, Ricardus Ireton, grome, et John Bosse, clerke, servientes Johannis Makeworthe, decani ecclesiæ cathedralis beatæ Mariæ Lincoln., cum multis aliis ignotis, riote congregati et modo guerrino arraiati, per mandatum, consensum et preceptum ipsius decani, vicesimo octavo die Junii, anno terciodecimo [Hen. VI., 1435] in Petrum Partryche, cancellarium ejusdem ecclesiæ, in choro ecclesiæ prædictæ apud Lincoln. hora vesperarum tunc et ibidem super divina servicia intendentem vi et armis insultum fecerunt, et male tractaverunt, in affraiacionem ejusdem Petri et omnium divina tunc et ibidem ministrancium, ita quod de vita ejus desperabatur, et ipsum Petrum a stallo suo in choro predicto violenter extraxerunt, et [h]abitum suum laceraverunt totaliter et ruperunt."

The indictment was quashed on technical grounds, and the issue of the case does not appear.

1438, Sunday, 14 Sept.—The order made in 1423 about election of mayor is annulled, and letters patent from K. Hen. VI. dated 6 Sept.

are enrolled, strictly enjoining that in future only the more influential, discreet and worthy persons shall be elected to that office. f. 9b.

1440, 18 Jan.—Ordinance respecting barbers, f. 10b. Amongst other rules are some regulating prices: *e.g.* a farthing for shaving a poor person and a halfpenny for a priest, and if they go to the houses of mayors and sheriffs and other leading citizens, or to conventual houses, then according to agreement. Sunday shaving is forbidden.

1441, 21 and 26 Feb.—Letters patent and warrant from Hen. VI. permitting the mayor and citizens to export to Calais annually for three years sixty sacks of wool free from the tax on wool lately imposed for a subsidy by Parliament, ff. 11b, 12. This is followed by an extract from the Memoranda in the Exchequer of the exoneration of the collectors of customs at Kingston-upon-Hull from the amount which would otherwise have been due for the wool thus exported.

Following this, at f. 14, comes an entry of an agreement between the Chapter and the City, upon a complaint made by Master John Brasbryge, master of the grammar schools of the city, against the schools for the choristers and for others the kindred of members of the cathedral body; allowing that the latter may be freely taught grammar at any days and hours, but that yearly at Michaelmas, Christmas and Easter they shall go down once to the general grammar schools of the city, and there at the accustomed hour be "sub regimine" and "sub doctrina proprii magistri." This agreement is headed, "Compositio . . . . . pro scola grammaticali invent. per Thomam Grantham."

1448–9.—Ordinances respecting the common seal. f. 15.

1450–1729.—Enrolments of numerous deeds relative to conveyance of property in Lincoln, recognizances, and a few pleas in civil cases in the city court. ff. 15b, 18, 19, 20b–31, 34–46, 81b–305.

1452.—Record of a case in which the sheriff Thomas Boyvyle is compelled to make a public confession and apology (in English) to the mayor Robert Bright for disobeying his order to make an arrest, and for violently assaulting him. f. 16.

1461.—Lease for 99 years by Alex. Prowet, precentor, of the site and churchyard of the destroyed church of S^{t} Peter at the Skin-market ("ad forum pellium") which belongs to his dignity, and is now annexed to the church of S^{t} Michael-on-the-hill; in order that the said churchyard may be decently kept and no longer used for the deposit of filth.

1471, 26 Sept.—Enrolment of a grant of privileges and exemptions made by Hen. III., 20 Apr. 1235, to the abbey of Tupholme. f. 33.

1480.—"Her after ensuyth the custemare of the cite of Lincolne of old auncien tyme acustomyd and usyd and be speciall poynt of chartyr be the Kynges nobulle progenitours grauntyd, and be Kyng Edward the iiii^{te} confermyd, that ys, to ocupie and injoye *Omnes libertates et consuetudines concessas civibus Londoniarum et leges Lincoln.*, wych custemare ys compyled and drawn owte of Franch into Inglysh be Thomas Grantham that hathe beyn Mayr of the same cite, and Mayr of the stapulle at Cales in the tyme of Robert Hodylstone Mayr and William Long and Henricus Higdoyn scheryffes, the yeyr and (*sic*) reygne of Kynge E. iiii^{te} xx^{o}, at the costys and labur and wrytyng of the sayd Thomas. And be the hole commeute admittyd to be perpetuall os weyll in the tyme of Wylliam Chambyr beyng Mayr os in the tyme of Robert Hodylston." f. 46b. This collection of the civic rules and customs is very clearly written by Grantham in a large hand, with ornamented

initial letters and marginal rubrics. The pages have been much rubbed and slightly injured by the wear and tear of continual use. There are some alterations and additions, and at f. 58 one paragraph has been entirely scraped out and another substituted. Grantham's compilation ends at f. 59 with the following section.

"*Homo recedens non atachetur in solempnitate natalis Domini.*

"Off sent Thomas day the apostylle befor Crystemes. When the Mayr of the Cite be his officers hathe proclamyd the prewalege, gyrthe, and the solempnite of the fest of the byrthe of oure Lord, that then after the sayd proclamacion made evere franchest man and denyssen inhabite within this Cite schalle have free liberte and sayffegarde in honeste mirthe and gam sportis to goo or doe what hym pleys. And nogth to be attachyd or arrestyd be any officere of this Cite for any accion personelx withowt the kyng be parte or servyd be the Kyngis wryt. And this to be observyd and kept to *twelff* day callyd the fest of the Epyphany be past, and then evere man take thayr awantage in the law."

1466.—Copies of the charter of Hen. VI. in 1424 and that of Edw. IV. exemplifying and confirming it in 1466, from the Memoranda Rolls: "Et scripta sunt ex exspencis et costagiis Thome Grantham." ff. 60^{b}, 70^{b}.

1447, 31 Aug.—Settlement by arbitration of a dispute between the city and the Prior (John Busseby) and Convent of St. Katherine, respecting encroachments by the latter in building. f. 77.

1511, 12 Feb.—Articles of agreement between the dean and chapter, the prior of St. Katherine, the Master of Burton Lazars, and others, of the one part, and the city, of the other part, respecting the laying open of certain unauthorized enclosures. f. 79^{b}.

1459, 11 June.—Letters patent of Hen. VI. certifying that the tenants of the manor of Chirchetoun [Kirton-in-Lindsey], which is of the ancient demesne of the Crown, are by virtue thereof free from tolls and taxes throughout England. f. 86^{b}.

In 1486 there are similar letters from Hen. VII. as to Blideburi in Suffolk. f. 91.

1492, 25 July.—Will of John Eylestone, of Lincoln, esq. f. 87. His body to be buried in the cathedral "in illo scanno petrino in quo corpus Roberti Bedale requiescit humatum, viz. ad pedes ejus." The following legacies amongst many others deserve special notice: to the fabric of the church of Eylestone 3*s.* 4*d.*.and to the chapel of St. Edmund ["Edi."] the King in the same village, xii*d.*; to the prior and convent of Nocton Park "unum ciphum de argento cum pede et cooportorio swaged [*a loose cover?*] ad exorandum pro animabus magistri Nicholai Wymbysshe et mei"; to Thomas Wymbyssh, esq., his girdle harness with silver, his gilt sword, "et meum librum de campo Lincoln," and to John Wymbyssh, son of Thomas, "librum de picturis armorum;" to the guild of the clerks of Lincoln "meum colerium quod Edwardus Rex quartus michi dedit."

1498, 12 Dec.—Will of Hugh Weston, of Braunstone. f. 90^{b}.

1502, 16 June.—Mention occurs of Robert Clerke of Lincoln, "belfownder." f. 91.

1505, 10 June.—Will of Alice Sympson alias Taverner, widow. f. 93.

150b, 10 Oct.—Will of Ralph Hodylstone, merchant.

1518, 26 March.—Will of Robert Wymark, bequeathing certain lands to Robert Turnour, chantry-priest of the chantry of Alexander Fitz-Martin in the church of St. Laurence, to pray for the soul of Edward Brown, jeweller. f. 106.

1526.—Will of Harry Byngley, with bequest to "the Resurreccion Gyld" in the church of St. Martin. f. 107.

——, 20 Aug.—Will of John Huchunsone.

1521, 7 Aug.—Foundation of a chantry in the church of St. Michael on the Hill by agreement between the abbot and convent of Barlings and alderman Rob. Dyghton. f. 108b.

——, 1 Sept.—Will of Walter Huggard. f. 109.

1525, 28 June. Will of John Jobson. f. 112.

1554.—Writ of Quo Warranto against the city. f. 128b.

1563, 12 Oct.—"A copye of the prevye seale for the discharge of the fiftenes." f. 138. See also ff. 152, 157.

Copies of charters of Rich. I. 23 Apr. *an.* 5 (1194) and of Hen. III., 21 Nov. *an.* 11 (1226). f. 150.

In 1578 the curious name of "Oriundus" Hill occurs. 170b.

1610, 20 Jan.—Will of Thomas Grantham, of the Black Monks near Lincoln, esq. f. 225b.

At the end on ff. 318–320 are entered copies of writs from Charles II., and certificates from officers of the Duchy of Lancaster and the liberties of St. Mary's at York, and from bishops of Ely in 1700 and 1725, for exemption of certain persons from payment of market-tolls, etc., as belonging to the ancient demesnes of the Crown, or (in virtue of a recited grant from Rich. I.) as tenants of the church of Ely.

Vol. II. A volume of 289 leaves of stout paper, bound in oak boards, covered with leather stamped with the Tudor rose, portcullis, fleur-de-lis, castle, &c. In good preservation. It contains entries from 1511 to the beginning of 1542, of the acts of the Common Council, the Secret Council, and the Court Leets. The first entry is an ordinance on 8 Oct. 1511, for the election of 24 discreet and honest persons in addition to the twelve aldermen to keep and order all acts to be made in the Common Council; and on the same day the privilege is granted to Robert Dighton, late mayor, of making one person a freeman of the city in return for his giving ten marks to discharge a debt of the city to Robert Wymark.

Bond from the city to Sir John Hussey, knt. in 100 marks that they will not henceforth elect any one of the inhabitants of Branston to serve the office of mayor, sheriff, or chamberlain; 15 Nov. 1511. f. 5. (Several cases occur of refusal to serve the office of sheriff.)

Case of the surrender of Paul Brandys, surgeon, a prisoner for debt, who had escaped into the privileged place of Beamound's Rents. *Ibid.*

Admissions of freemen and apprentices. ff. 8, 9. &c., continued at the end of each year.

1514, 4 March.—Order for taking muster of all able persons in the city that be archers, in obedience to a letter from the King requiring that 10 able persons, either demilances or else archers on horseback, shall be ready to go at the King's wage into France. f. 23b. From a

subsequent entry on 24 March it is found that these ten soldiers were to form part of the retinue of the Earl of Lincoln, who sent word that he was content that they shall have "harnes of revyttes and jakytes as that they had affore at the last viage, and white fustiane dublettes with yelow howse, and horses to ryde uppone." 1514.

1514, 12 Apr.—It is agreed that the mayor shall bring in the great book called "the Blythe," and another "bourded" book and the charter of Edw. IV., with a canvas bag wherein is the perambulation of the lands of the commons of the city, with other rolls of paper. f. 27^{b}.

——. Entry of contributions collected for the payment of 16*l.* to the chantry called Burgh-chantry in the close of Lincoln. ff. 34, 35.

——. Inventory of effects delivered by the out-going mayor to his successor; three keys, the seal of the mayoralty made of silver, three collars of silver for the three waits, of which one has 24 links with an escocheon, another 28 links with a shield, and the third 26 links and a shield. f. 35. [These chains and badges are again described in 1538 at f. 270^{b}.]

1515, 19 Jan.—Richard Clerke, the recorder, and Robert Alansone are re-elected burgesses for Parliament. The rate of contribution for their payment follows. f. 38^{b}.

——. Estimate of the cost of the renewal of the city charter: viz. for the writing it, 8 marks; for the examining it, 26*s.* 8*d.*; for the lace, 16*d.*; for the chaffer of the wax, 8*d.*; for the seal, 20*s.* 4*d.*; for the enrolment, 4*l.*; and for the fine to the King, at the least 4*l.* f. 40^{b}.

——, 27 July.—It is agreed that whereas divers garments and other "heriorments" are yearly borrowed in the country for the arraying of the pageants of St. Anne's guild, but now the knights and gentlemen are afraid with the plague so that the "graceman" cannot borrow such garments, every alderman shall prepare and set forth in the said array two good gowns, and every sheriff and every chamberlain a gown, and the persons with them shall wear the same. And the constables are ordered to wait upon the array in procession, both to keep the people from the array, and also to take heed of such as wear garments in the same. f. 42^{b}.

——, 8 Oct.—Fines imposed upon aldermen, &c. who do not, in accordance with the laudable and ancient custom of the city, give their attendance on the mayor in Advent and Lent from his house to the Minster, and then home to his house again. f. 48.

——, 5 Nov.—Order that the mayor with five or six others shall have communication with Dr. Ranstone for the profits of St. Anne's guild. f. 50.

——. Names of twenty "typolers [tipplers] that fynd sewerty for gud abeyrynge acordyng to the Statute;" in four instances being bound for their wives. f. 51.

1516, 11 Aug.—A burgess named Wymark is committed to ward for refusing to pay 3*s.* 4*d.* as his contribution for an Exchequer writ, and with seditious words walking up and down in the guild-hall saying that the hall was wrongly used, for he had paid for it. f. 53. [Other cases of "seditious words" occur frequently. At f. 89^{b} an alderman is committed to ward for the like. All such cases were heard privately in a "Secret Council" composed of the mayor, aldermen and sheriffs, before which personal matters and some of special importance were brought.]

1516. 1516, 10 Jan.—Ordered that three aldermen now sworn shall each of them have a gown of crimson, according to the laudable and ancient custom, ready against Pasch-day next. f. 53b.

——, 10 Jan. and 25 March.—Sir Robert Burton, chantry-priest of the Chapel upon the High-bridge, resigns the chantry, which is given to Sir William Yates. ff. 54b, 55b.

——, An assessment made for defraying the expense of bringing home the new charter. f. 56b.

——, 28 Apr.—Six persons committed to ward for departing from the Mayor's procession on Ascension day. f. 56b.

——. Contribution towards the making a stock for setting up the cloth trade, the mayor having gotten a clothier to come to the city for this purpose. f. 57b.

——, 30 Oct.—Entry of the public re-delivery by ald. Robert Wymark of a silver saltcellar weighing 21½ ounces which had been pledged to him by John Stanley for 4*l.* f. 69b.

1517, 19 March.—Ordered that all spinners of wool and other cloth-makers who shall come to the city shall have their freedom as long as they dwell there, and shall be free for three years from summons to any quest. f. 71.

——, 10 June, 22 Sept.—Sir Robert Denyas appointed St. Anne's priest, to sing for the brethren and sisters and benefactors of the guild, for his life "off a gud and lawfull beryng," having yearly 5*l.*, he promising yearly to help to the bringing forth and preparing of the pageants in St. Anne's guild. ff. 72b, 75.

——, 26 Oct.—The chantry-lands of St. Thomas-upon-the-Bridge ordered to be viewed. f. 78.

A meeting to be called to know what each man will give, according to their valuation, for the purchasing of a school-house for the master of the grammar-school. *Ibid.*

1518, 10 June.—A collection begins to be made towards the cleansing and repairing of the Foss-dyke, for which the King has sent down his commission. f. 80. [The work was found to involve more cost than it proved easy to discharge, and on 14 Dec. it is reported that the Bishop of Lincoln had issued a commission to all curates and others in his diocese for aid, and granted pardon to all them that helped in the same, and collectors are appointed in consequence to ride to divers towns. f. 92b. Collections continued to be made for a long time, including York and Hull in their range.]

——, ——. Lease of the "Chequyre in the Myres" granted to the Recorder. *Ibid.*

——, 16 June.—Master Sammes late graceman of St. Anne's gild delivered to Master Peresone, now graceman, a hamper with jewels of the same gild. f. 81.

Ordered that every alderman shall send forth a servant with a torch to be lighted in the procession with a rochet upon him about the Sacrament, upon pain of forfeiture of 6*s.* 8*d.*, and also, under like penalty, send forth one person with a good gown upon his back to go in the procession. That every constable shall wait on the procession on St. Anne's day by 7 of the clock, upon pain of forfeiture of 12*d.* *Ibid.* [In 1521 the "rochet" becomes "an onest gowne," the aldermen's forfeits are reduced to 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the constables' encreased to that sum. f. 131b. In 1525 the aldermen are each to provide

a gown of silk for the kings; the constables' forfeit is reduced to 6*d.*; every man of the city in his degree is to wait upon the mayor, under penalty of 4*d.*; and it is ordered that every occupation shall prepare and apparel the pageants in all preparation except plate and cups ["copes"]. f. 179^{b}. List of defaulters in 1526. f. 189. In 1527 the parishioners of St. John Evang. in Wykford refuse to lend "honorments." f. 198. Form of indenture made with the graceman, 29 July, 1528. f. 206^{b}.] 1518.

1518,16 June.—M. Pereson, now graceman of St. Anne's gild, sheweth a gown of black damask "abime," indented about with black velvet, of the gift of John Carre to the use and honour of the said gild. f. 81^{b}. Will. Fox to have the said gown in keeping, and lend it to no person. *Ibid.*

——, 21 Oct. A collection made for repair of the School-house. f. 90^{b}.

The constables to bring all beggars and idle persons before the Mayor, who shall cause those to fall to work who can, or else to void the city. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Dec.—Exchange of land with the priest of the Fitzmartin chantry. f. 93.

1519, 7 Apr.—Barthol. Willyford to ride to Markby Abbey and speak with the prior for the sealing of the deed for the house of the schoolmaster, and to bear the money with him that is owing for the same. f. 95. Further orders about payment, ff. 104^{b}, 129^{b}, 148^{b}.

——, 18 June.—An order formerly made that no mayor should command any of his brethren to ward without the assent of six of his brethren is annulled. f. 96^{b}.

Leave given to Sir Edw. Burgh to buy and carry forth 10 or 12 load of stone. f. 97.

——, ——. Agreed that every man and woman in the city, being able, shall be brother and sister in St. Anne's gild, and pay yearly 4*d.*, man and wife, at the least. *Ibid.*

Every occupation belonging to St. Anne's gild to bring forth their pageants sufficiently, upon pain of forfeiting 10*l.* f. 97^{b}. [The bellman has the charge of the things belonging to the gild. *Ibid.*]

Other orders for the pageants. ff. 115, 123.

——, 22 Sept. The Old George in Eastgate is granted for ever to master Tailbois and his heirs at an annual rent of 4*d.* f. 99^{b}.

——, 13 Oct.—Sammer, a justice of the peace for the city, is censured for offering a bribe of 10*l.* to Robert Howlet to be favourable to John Brampston who had killed Robert Coots. f. 103^{b}

1520, 20 March.—Agreement that the customary payment shall be made of 2*s.* yearly to the prior and convent of the house of the friar Dominick for the wax light before the high altar. f. 108^{b}.

——, 23 April.—Ordered that all the common council shall be present on Sunday next at the burial of John Tailbois, mayor. f. 109.

——, ——. Agreement with William Spencer, freemason, and his fellows for the building of the Gild-hall. f. 109^{b}.

——, 16 May.—Sir Will. Yattes, the chantry-priest of the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr upon the High Bridge being deceased, and the place must be filled up within eight days by the mayor and commons, it is agreed that a "kalander" [a poll] shall be made of such honest priests as will labour for it, and they that have the most voices to be presented to the Dean and Chapter to have the chantry. f. 111. There

1520. were four candidates, Sir John Percyvell, Sir Robert Wodward, *al.* Wodworth, Sir John Pykke, and Sir Richard Cateroll; of whom Percyvell received 4 votes, Wodward 22, and the others none. Wodward gives security to lay out 4*l.* within two years on the repairs of the tenements belonging to the chantry.

1520, 23 May, 27 June.—William Bretylbank, one of the sergeants of the city, is complained of, deprived of his office, and committed to ward. ff. 113[b], 116.

——, 19 July.—William Benne, chaplain, unanimously elected chaplain of the chantry of Dalderby in St. Bennet's church. f. 116[b].

——, ——. One of the sheriffs fined for not duly executing the sentence on Robert Bisshopp, who after being made to abjure the city for petty bribery returned, and was sentenced to be set in the pillory and to have his ears nailed to it. f. 117[b].

——, Oct.—Special allowance of land to the incoming mayor and of the right of creating three freemen, by reason of scarceness of corn and other victual and his great charge in keeping of his house to the honour of the city. ff. 121[b], 122.

——, 10 and 25 Oct.—Various sheriffs fined for escapes of prisoners through their neglect. ff. 123[a, b], 128.

The gild of St. Anne let to farm. f. 124[b].

Persons appointed to take to the use of the Mayor and Commons, according to the King's grant by his charter, all such swans as be strays and of which the owner is not known. *Ibid.*

——, 26 Nov.—William Dyghton, schoolmaster, is bound over to keep the peace. f. 125.

A fisherman fined for saying that if any victualler coming to the city will give the mayor any part or dish of fish, he may sell at his pleasure, or else he will be "pullyd and gollyd." *Ibid.*

——, 10 Dec.—Whereas divers books pertaining to the Gildhall, as well concerning the Common Council as other writings, be embezzled and withdrawn, and no knowledge can be had where they are nor by whom they were withdrawn, the mayor shall cause such as have occupied any books to be spoken with, and if no person will acknowledge the having them, then a monition shall proceed of cursing against all such persons as keep any such books, rolls, evidences, muniments or other writings. f. 125[b].

——, 10 Dec.—Will. Dyghton, schoolmaster, and John Welcome, scrivener, give bail for a "scoler" to keep the peace. f. 126[b].

1521, 21 Jan.—The Recorder declares that he will no longer hold office because of certain misdemeanours and misordering of the best of the city as well as of the commonalty; but at the urgent request of the mayor and his brethren and also of my lord dean of Lincoln he consented still to occupy the room of the recordership upon condition that the misdemeanours be mended. f. 127.

——, 30 Jan.—Order that certain acts comprised in a bill made by the Recorder's advice for the common profit of the city be of authority and be registered in the book of customary of the city. f. 127[b].

——, 10 Feb.—The bridge at the Bargate and the "Gawte" bridge ordered to be paved. f. 128[b].

The watch to be surely kept nightly within the precinct and shire of the city by eight persons in harness to serve the King. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Sir Robert Cowper, vicar of Bolingbroke, arrested by a servant of the sheriff of the county in Eastgate within the precinct of the city contrary to its privileges. *Ibid.*

1521, 10 Feb.—Letter to a member of the Privy Council complaining that corn had been stopped by the sheriff of the county on its way to market. f. 129. 1521.

——, 20 Apr.—A deputation appointed to go to Mistress Taylboys about the bringing forth of St. Anne's gild. f. 130.

Agreed that the Mayor shall cause a cursing to be published through the city against all those that have withdrawn records and books of the Common Council. *Ibid.*

——, 16 July.—List of persons who complain of toll being taken of them by the officers of Nottingham. f. 131b.

A vagabond taken in the city among "vacabunds and valyant beggers" is set in the stocks and then let go. *Ibid.*

George Browne, alderman, elected in the place of the graceman of St. Anne's gild, complains that as the plague is reigning in the city he cannot get such garments and "honourments" as should be in the pageants of the procession; wherefore it is agreed to borrow a gown of my lady "Powes" for one of the Maries, and the other Mary to be arrayed in the crimson gown of velvet that belongeth to the gild; and the prior of St. Katherine's to be spoken with to have such "honourments" as we have had aforetime. f. 132.

——, ——. Letters to and from the Mayor of Nottingham respecting mutual complaints about the exaction of tolls contrary to a composition made between the two places. f. 132b.

——, ——. Aldermen Browne and Forman ordered to bring forth St. Anne's gild on pain of forfeit by each of 40*s.* without pardon. f. 133.

——, 20 June.—One John Oltby, or Otley, of Bowden, Cheshire, examined who had come to Lincoln on his way to go to our Lady of Walsingham. *Ibid.*

——, Aug.–7 Sept.—Assessment for ten soldiers. ff. 133b, 135.

——, 7 Sept.—The Mayor brings in a book of the Common Council that was found in M. Taylboys' house after his decease and saith that he hath no books and papers that were found in his house. f. 135b.

——, 30 Oct.—The Mayor shows a paper of Mr. Dighton for the foundation of a priest to sing in the church of St. Michael upon the hill for him, his father and mother and others, with all the brethren and sisters of St. Anne's gild, the same to be by the gift of Dighton during his life, and afterwards of his executors during their lives, and after their decease of the Mayor and commons of the city, as all other chantries within the city are and ever have been; with a proviso that the said chaplain shall yearly be ready to help to the preparing and bringing forth of the procession of St. Anne's day, and after Dighton's decease to be called for ever St. Anne's priest. If the Mayor and Commons make default in giving of the same for 15 days, then Sir William Tyrwhyt and his heirs to give the same. f. 141b.

——, 21 Nov.—Four men who came from London to the fair, one to see his grandmother, another to sell ale, the third to seek work, and the fourth to sell pins and laces, are all commanded to the stocks to be punished as vagabonds, although it is said of the first that no trespass can be found in him. *Ibid.*

——, 31 Dec.—The house for the schoolmaster to be repaired. ff. 142b [152b, 166b].

A composition with the prior of St. Katherine's to be new made. *Ibid.*

Every alderman to make a gown for the kings in the pageant on St. Anne's day, and the *Pater noster* play to be played this year. *Ibid.*

1522. 1522, 13 June.—Two honest persons to be appointed in each parish to gather the money on St. Anne's day. f. 144.

The soldiers who are to go forth are to be seen in their harness that it may be ready when they are called upon. f. 144[b].

——, 12 Aug.—Randall Hamour committed to prison with a pair of fetters on his legs for coming by night to a house with sword, buckler and dagger, and keeping it suspiciously until the Mayor sent one of the sheriffs for him at 11 of the bell at night, and when brought before the Mayor he with seditious words called him "false knave." On 22 Aug. he is bailed. f. 148[b].

——, ——. Nicholas Brught, hatter, being examined as to where he was born saith he was born in Arras in Burgone lande, and that three hatters in London will bear him record of the same. *Ibid.*

Here one leaf, 151, is left blank, and the handwriting afterwards changes; no doubt in consequence of the death of the Town Clerk by whom the whole preceding portion of the volume was written.

——, 9 Oct.—Every man to keep convenient silence when the Mayor commandeth him upon pain of forfeiting one penny. f. 153.

——, 2 Oct.—A man to be sent to London to buy such harness as is wanted, and as many Almain rivets as may be bought for 6*l.* f. 154.

——, 6 Nov.—The mercers, bakers, and tanners to have their several charters sealed with the common seal on payment of 13*s.* 4*d.* f. 155. [The bakers, f. 159.]

The market for poultry, eggs, and all white meat to be kept in St. Laurence's parish. *Ibid.*

1523, 17 Jan.—Whereas the Chanter of the Cathedral has felled the ashes that grew in the churchyard that was late of the church of the Trinity at the Gresefoot, which is now not used as a sanctified place, whereby it is supposed that the King hath "re-interest" into the same, it is agreed unanimously that seizure shall be made of the same in the King's behalf to the use of the city, and if the Chanter make any suit at law, the defence shall be borne of the common money. f. 156[b].

No pig to be sold above 4*d.* (—the same in 1534—) on pain of forfeiture by buyer and seller of 2*d.* each. *Ibid.*

——, 9 April.—Thomas Burton appointed lieutenant for the Mayor John Halton, who is elected to be one of the burgesses in Parliament. f. 157

——, 28 May.—The Mayor sheweth that he hath been in Parliament from the Saturday in Pasch week, when he took his journey, [11 Apr.], to the Monday in Whitson week when he came home [25 May]; the expenses are 4*s.* the day for both burgesses; that he had communication with my lord of Lincoln concerning the ashes that the Chanter of the church of Lincoln hath felled in divers churchyards, and a "resonably" answer shall be given when my lord's Chancellor cometh to Lincoln. f. 158.

——, ——. Six shillings to be paid to John Jakson for his attendance when he was the King's post in this city. f. 158[b].

——, —— (and 2 June).—Orders for St. Anne's day. f. 159, [160].

——, ——. The executors of the will of Edward Browne report that they have purchased lands for the augmentation of the Fitzmartin chantry in the church of St. Laurence. *Ibid.*

1523, 19 Aug.—The mayor, who is come from the Parliament, sheweth what he and the Recorder have done in the Parliament, and that there is now owing to them for their expenses 12*l.* f. 161. 1523.

——, ——. The tavern under "Stanbow" let to Will. Archbold at the yearly rent of 8*s.* *Ibid.*

——, 3 Feb.—Examination of a saffron seller as a vagabond, who dwelleth no where and hath no ware to sell, with particulars of all the places he had been at since 1 Jan. f. 163.

——, 28 May.—Charter of the fraternity and gild of bakers, founded chiefly in honour of St. Clement. f. 164[a. b].

1524, 31 May.—In a Secret Council it is showed that Sir Thomas Lovell, knt., is deceased, whence it is needful that communication be had with the Recorder what way and to whom labour should be made to solicit my Lord Ros for pardon of 100*l.* due to him, parcel of the fee-farm of the city, which Sir T. Lovell pardoned for his life, having yearly twenty marks. f. 166[b]. [Orders thereupon. ff. 172, 175[a. b], 176.]

——, ——. Communication to be had with the Dean and Chapter for the enclosing of the commons beyond Bishop-bridge. f. 167.

——, 10 Dec.—In a Secret Council the Mayor, the Recorder and Thomas Burton show what communication they have had at London with my lord Roos concerning the 100*l.*, and what answer they have of him [*which is not given*]. f. 177. [Further entries occur on 28 Jan. 1525, 3 Apr., 17 May, 21 June; 1526, 12 March, 14 Nov.; 1527, 6 Apr., 26 Sept.; 1528, 2 Apr., 13 June. ff. 177[b], 178[a. b], 179[b], 187, 195[b], 196[b], 198, 205, 206[a. b]. A year and a half's payment is made to Lord Roos's counsel at the same rate as was paid to Sir T. Lovell on 28 Nov. 1525. ff. 185[b], 186.]

——, ——. Two honest gowns to be provided for the two waits against Christmas. *Ibid.*

1525.—Abstract of the revenues of the city. f. 186[b].

1527, 4 May.—Mr. Dyghtone, schoolmaster, stands to his taking of the tenement between St. Rumbold's churchyard without Claskytgate and the School-house, according as he took it on 4 Jan. last; promises to get an able learned man to keep the grammar-school, who is to be admitted by the Chancellor of the Church of Lincoln; and gives bail for his appearing in the city court to answer to such actions as shall be brought against him, from day to day, until discharged. f. 197[b]. Order for the building or repairing of this house for the schoolmaster, 19 July. f. 198.

——, 26 Sept.—A tun of Gascon wine granted to the mayor for entertainment of strangers. f. 205.

1528, 2 Apr.—Election of a chaplain of the chantry of Robert de Dalderby in St. Benedict's Church. Sir Thomas Ingram elected by 31 voices over Sir Thomas Frere with 21 and Sir Will. Smyth with 3. f. 206.

——, 7 Sept.—"Causes of the decay of the city of Lincoln": a statement submitted to lord Roos with regard to the annual payment to him. The decay began originally by the removal of the staple to Calais. Now there are 200 houses clearly decayed, and the sheriffs have not of certainty where they can gather 30*l.* towards their charges. f. 207.

——, 29 Oct.—It is agreed that no more than 20 marks be paid to Lord Roos. f. 208. Further orders about the case, 1529, 17 Jan.;

1528. 1534, 12 Sept. (Sir Will. Ascough, knt., requested to mediate), 17 Oct.; 1535, 27 Jan., 8 Apr., 15 May; 1536, 4 May. ff. 210[b], 239, 243[b], 245[b], 247, 248[b], 254.

1528, 29 Oct.—Agreed that if any of the Common Council have communing of high and inordinate words, and will not cease when the knock is struck with the mall, they shall forfeit one halfpenny as often as they be culpable; provided that it shall it be lawful for any to stand up and commune alone as long as need shall require. *Ibid.* [In 1534 the fine is fixed at 1*d.* for the first offence, 2*d.* for the second, 3*d.* for the third, and 4*d* for the fourth. f. 232[b].]

1529.—The midsummer fair claimed for Bishop Longland, but on the city charters being shown him, he withdraws the claim. f. 210[b].

——, 24 June.—Sir William Smyth elected chaplain of the chantry of St. Thomas M. on High bridge, called the Wykford Chantry, by 26 voices over Sir John Losemer with six. f. 211.

1530, 21 March.—Agreed that every person shall contribute to the bringing forth of Corpus Christi gild according as they are assessed; and that St. George's gild shall be maintained and brought forth yearly. f. 216.

——, ——. Sir Thomas Freire elected chaplain of the Dalderby antry vacant by the death of Will. Benne. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Notice from Lord Roos of the death of William Clerke, the Recorder. f. 216[b].

1531, 14 March.—Order for the enrolment of the last Charter in the Exchequer. f. 220 [and f. 223 [a, b]].

——, 26 Sept.—Agreed that St. Anne's priest shall wait upon master Mayor daily, and the Mayor shall find him his board, and every Mayor hereafter shall do the same or forfeit the 10*l.* which they have of the common chamber. f. 222.

——, ——. William Sammes never to be one of the Common Council, for divers causes. *Ibid.*

——, 20 Oct.—Walter Marrys (?) of London having offered to labour with the Lord Chancellor for the relief of the city, it is agreed to ask his help to appr[opriate] four benefices to the church of Lincoln in discharge of the 80*l.* part of the fee-farm of the city. f. 223.

1532, 11 July.—Master Thomas Moyne elected Recorder. f. 224.

1533, 22 Jan.—Vincent Grantham, esq., and William Sammes, burgesses in Parliament. f. 228.

——, ——. All the stone and ramell of All Hallows church sold to V. Grantham for 26*s.* 8*d.* *Ibid.*

——, 14 June.—Agreed that the chamberlain of the east ward shall take down the tiles, timber and stone of St. Augustine's church, as all other churches decayed shall be. f. 228[b].

——, 24 Oct.*—Every alderman who has been a mayor to wear henceforth whenever they attend upon the Mayor a tippet of velvet about their necks, under penalty of 3*s.* 4*d.* f. 232[b].

——, 8 Nov.—Agreed that no baker or brewer bear or send any bread or ale to their customers upon the Sunday or other principal festival days under penalty of 12*d.* *totiens quotiens*, unless by license of the Mayor. f. 233.

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* Incorrectly dated xxvi. Hen. VIII. for xxv.

1533, 8 Nov. The common seal to be kept in a chest now made for the purpose with three locks and three keys. f. 233b. 1533.

1534, 20 March.—Order for payment of 3*l.* 10*s.* to Vincent Grantham, esq. for a hat of maintenance for this city and a scabbard for the sword of cloth of "tyschey" [tissue] which he hath brought down from London. f. 235.

—— 12 Sept.—Agreed that as St. Austin's church and the Holy Trinity church at the Grece foot are ruined and at falling down, the walls of the said churches shall be taken down, and the stones and all other utensils and necessaries in them be sold; but certain stones of St. Austin's be given for reparation of St. Swithin's church. f. 239.

——, ——. The bells of the two churches to be sold; one half of the money to go to the common chamber, and the other half to the parishioners of St. Swithin for the use of their church. f. 239b. [The parishioners to pay the price. f. 252b.]

——, ——. The Warden of the Grey Friars to have sufficient stone from the said churches for reparation of his house and church, freely and of charity. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Sept.—The parishioners of St. Swithin's to have the walls of St. Austin's church for 33*s.* 4*d.* f. 240b.

——. Oath to be taken in pursuance of the Act of Succession. f. 241.

——, 6 Oct.—The King's commission of array. f. 244.

1535, 27 Jan.—The church of the Holy Trinity at "Greise" foot, St. "Bayth" church,* the church of the Holy Trinity at Grey Friars, and St. Michael's at the "Gottes," to be taken down, and every thing to be sold to the use of the common chamber, the chancels excepted. f. 245b, and 8 Apr. f. 247.

——, 12 Feb.—The church of St. Michael at Gottes sold to the parishioners of St. Peter at Gottes for 10*l.* f. 246.

——, ——. Payment of 5*l.* 10*s.* made to Will. Sammes for his expenses in Parliament. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Proclamation made at Standbow and in the market-place at Wykford, in obedience to the King's writ, of certain ordinances made by advice of his Council. *Ibid.*

——, Apr.—At a Court leet it is agreed that William Dyghtone be discharged of his aldermanship. f. 246b.

——, 8 Apr.—License to the Warden of the Grey Friars to lay his conduit in the common ground of the city where he shall think most convenient, and to have the license under the common seal given to him of charity. f. 247.

——, ——. The 5*l.* received for the sale of St. Michael's church to go towards the new "edge" and dyke of the commons on the south part of the town. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Communication to be had with the Lord Burgh about the privy seals which he hath brought down against the late Mayor and the aldermen for swearing the inhabitants of the Baylle to the succession of the Crown; and if any of them be punished for compelling those

* By "St. Bayth church" is probably meant, as suggested by Precentor Venables, the church of St. Peter *ad fontem*.

1535. inhabitants to come before them to be sworn, then their costs shall be borne by the common chamber. f. 247.

Further order on 25 May. f. 248.

1535, 24 Apr.—Tiles sold from St. Leonard's church. f. 247b.

The abbot of Bardney buys stones from St. Austin's church. *Ibid.*

Stones from Trinity church next the Black Friars to be used for mending the highways in St. Mark's and St. Mary's parishes. *Ibid.*

——, 15 May.—Trinity church at the Grey Friars to be used for dyking and setting the commons betwixt the city and Burton. f. 248.

——, 1 July.—Agreed that the Warden of the Grey Friars shall have the timber roof of St. "Bathe" church to the upholding and maintaining his house, which shall be given freely for charity; and one side of the wall of the church to be taken for the pavement in St. Mary's parish. f. 249. [The walls to be sold. f. 250.]

——, ——. Chantry of William Causeknyght mentioned. f. 249b.

——, ——. Two buttresses of Trinity church at the Grece foot and stone from the chancel bought by Robert Dightone. *Ibid.*

——, 19 Aug.—Vincent Grantham, esq., one of the burgesses in Parliament, out of his zeal and love to the city, accepts 7*l.* as full payment for his expenses at Parliament still due of 11*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; the total sum he received being 41*l.* 8*d.*, and the total received by the other burgess, William Sam[m]e[s], being 45*l.* 4*s.* ff. 249b, 250.

——, 14 Sept.—Robert Alanson elected mayor; and a grant made to him of a tun of wine or else 4*l.* to buy it with, not only in consideration that his wife has been a long time diseased and not able to stir and have the oversight of his housekeeping, but also that he is of great age and not provided with either wheat or malt, and that he shall not only be at greater charges this year than any mayor was by a long time before, considering all manner of corn and other things is at this time so dear, but also that he hath many acquaintances, by reason whereof he is like to have much resort to him this year to put him to cost. f. 251b.

——, ——. Those who have bought the church walls of St. Peter at the "Goattes" may sell them to any foreigner. *Ibid.*

——, 24 Nov.—Persons appointed to view the house of Heynynges abbey [priory, Lincolnshire,] in St. Michael's parish, and to certify whether it be able to stand or not. f. 253.

——, ——. Agreed that the Lord Gray and other gentlemen being now at the marriage of Mr. Robert Sutton's daughter shall have two pikerels given them. *Ibid.*

1536, 4 May.—Thirty shillings paid to the Recorder towards his costs in riding up to London of and for the obtaining of chantries in this city at the Parliament. f. 254.

——, 4 June.—Lord Burgh to be informed that certain of the inhabitants of the Bale refuse to pay any burgess-pence according to the old custom. f. 254b.

——, ——. Agreed that if Vincent Grantham can by any means get the lands and tenements of the cell of the Black Monks to the use of the common chamber, to be enacted at the next Parliament, then he shall have the demesne lands of the cell for 30 years, paying yearly 5*l.* *Ibid.*

——, 26 June. Agreed that as there must be 60*l.* sent up to be paid about the obtaining of the Black Monks' and other lands, and

there is very little money in the common stock, Robert Alanson, the mayor, shall have the plate of the great Gild as a gage and a pawn for the sum of 28*l.* to be lent by him, to be sent up to London to the Recorder and Mr. Grantham, with 12*l.* of the common stock. f. 255 a b. 1536.

1536, 9 Oct.—A letter received from Sir Brian Tuke, treasurer of the King's chamber, dated at London 6 Oct., ordering the mayors and officers of Waltham Cross, Ware, Royston, Huntingdon, Stilton, Stamford, Sleaford, and Lincoln, instantly, at their utmost peril, to provide an able man well horsed to carry all such letters as may be sent by the King or the Privy Council from post to post with all diligence by night or day. f. 258.

——, 8 Nov.—Agreed that every man that is able to have a horse, or that hath a horse, shall keep them in a readiness to serve the King whenever they shall be called upon. f. 258b.

——, ——. Agreed that Charles, Duke of Suffolk, shall have the denomination and putting in of the Recorder, with our service next under the King's grace. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Dec.—Antony Myssyndyne "is elected and chosen Recorder." *Ibid.*

1537, 29 Jan.—William Smyth, chantry priest of the Bridge, is to cause to be tiled all such houses as he hath taken the tile off. f. 259.

——, ——. The mayor and his brethren shall meet the Duke's grace of Norfolk, and give him a present of two cranes, two swans, and two pikes. *Ibid.*

ff. 261b–267 contain an index of matters in the preceding portion of the Register.

f. 267b. Memoranda of gifts presented on the occasion of royal visits, as follows:—

1461, 13 March, to Edw. IV. 12 pike ("dentrices"), 12 tench and 12 bream.

1445–6, 24 Hen. VI. *no day.* Ordered that the mayor, aldermen and sheriffs, with 80 or 100 of the more respectable and better dressed persons ("de honestioribus et melius araiaratis personis") shall ride to meet the King on his coming to Lincoln, as many others of the commons as possible going on foot, to the Cross upon the hill, and there kneeling shall reverently offer to the King, for his good relief which he hath before-time afforded us, 100*l.* in gold.

1486 [April], 1 Hen. VII. 12 great pike; 12 great tench, 12 salmon, and 12 great eels.

1487, 2 Hen. VII. Three dozen green geese, one dozen fat capons, half-a-dozen fat pike; but because no geese or wild fowl could be gotten, it was agreed that the present should be two fat oxen, one score fat muttons, six great fat pike, and twelve fat capons "of greyse."

These entries must have been copied from an earlier Register now lost.

1538, 22 Nov.—Agreed that all the plate that belongs to the great Gild shall from this time be clearly given to the commons of this city, and so remain until farther direction, and all the brass, with all such rents as were paid to the Gild. f. 270.

——, 1 March.—A common carrier appointed to carry away every week all such "vylde" stuff as lieth in the streets, every man giving him for his labor as they may agree. f. 271b.

1538. 1538, 1 March. The clerk of the parish of St. Lawrence to ring at 9 o'cl. at night and 4 o'cl. in the morning, winter and summer, and the clerk of St. Mary's at 8 and 4; both receiving 3*s.* 4*d.* from the chamberlains, but the latter also 20*d.* from the great Gild; to ring holy-days as well as other days upon pain of imprisonment. f. 271[b].

1539, 18 July.—Agreed that St. Anne's gild shall go up on the Sunday next after St. Anne's day in manner and form as it hath been had in time past, and every one in default to forfeit 3*s.* 4*d.*; and the perambulation the Tuesday after, after the old custom and manner. f. 273[b].

Six fodder of lead to be given to Rob. Alanson and others towards the payment of 40*l.* formerly lent by them. *Ibid.* and 274.

——, 12 Nov.—The stuff belonging to St. Anne's gild to be laid in the chapel of the bridge, and the house in which it lieth to be let. f. 276.

——, ——. A pillory to be set up in St. Bennet's parish. *Ibid.*

1540, 28 Jan.—Oysters to be sold only at 4*d.* the "wasche" [*al.* "wesche," *i.e.*, ten bushels], and those who refuse so to sell them to be discharged from selling either muscles or cockles, which are to be at the same price. f. 277.

——, 3 March.—No houses to be pulled down without rebuilding. f. 277[b].

——, 2 June.—Agreed that six cups which were given by Dr. Lee and Master Freman to certain churches in Lincoln shall wholly remain henceforth to St. Anne's gild. f. 278.

——, ——. Agreed that St. Anne's gild shall go forward as it hath done in times past; that every alderman shall have a gown and a torch, and every sheriff to find a gown, and every occupation to bring forth their pageants according to the old custom, and every occupation that hath their pageants broken to make them ready against the day, on pain of forfeiting 20*s.* f. 278[b].

——, ——. Agreed that those three that occupied for St. George's gild shall occupy still, and everyone of them to occupy one week after another. *Ibid.*

——. [Orders in this year about procuring the enrolling of the Charter.]

1541, 9 July.—Enacted that there shall be given to the King at his coming to the city [9 Aug.] twenty fat oxen and one hundred fat muttons, to the value of 50*l.* f. 285[b].

——, ——. Every alderman that hath been mayor to provide scarlet gowns, and every other alderman crimson gowns for the meeting the King on horseback at the farthest part of the liberties. *Ibid.*

——, ——. William Hudson put out of the Council for his obstinate words. [Probably in the debate about the King's reception.] *Ibid.* [and f. 286.]

——, ——. All other inhabitants, being of ability, to make themselves gowns of London russet or other like colour. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The King's arms to be set upon the Bar gate and on the south side of the Guildhall for the King's coming. *Ibid.*

——, 11 July.—Every inhabitant to be assessed for the above-mentioned gift. f. 286.

——, 30 July.—Monday and Tuesday next appointed for carrying away all dunghills, gravel, stones, and other like stuff now lying in the

city and liberties, and the bringing of sand to the streets, against the King's coming, and therefore all husbandmen to give their attendance on Monday at 6 o'cl. f. 286. 1541.

1541, 30 July. All who take horses to meet the King shall be in their best apparel, and they shall have horses and no mares. f. 286b.

——, ——. The aldermen to be prepared the Sunday next after Lammas Day with black cloth for their saddles, etc. *Ibid.*

——, 9 Aug.—"The cummynge of the Kyng to this citie." The King and Queen came about 4 o'cl., and the Mayor, Recorder and his brethren met him at the farthest part of the liberties, with the gentlemen of the parts of Lindsey, "and there they kneeled before the King, and the Recorder made a proposition, and after the proposition so made the Mayor kissed the mace and delivered it to the King, and immediately the King delivered it to him again, and the Mayor on horseback alone did bear the same mace before the King and afore the Lord Hastings then bearing the sword, and other bearing the King's maces, unto such time as the King entered to the Bishop's palace at Lincoln.

To the King our sovereign lord. Please it your most excellent highness, that the mayor, his brethren, and inhabitants of your city of Lincoln, do present your highness towards your grace's welcome into this your city with this present following:—

First, in fat oxen 20, price 20*l.*

Item, in fat muttons 100, price 30*l.*

To the Queen's grace. Please it your grace that the mayoress and her sisters, 'aldresses' of your city of Lincoln, do present your grace towards your welcome into this your city with this present following:—

First, in pikes, 11
[Item,] breams, 8 } price 7*l.*"
[Item,] tenches, 6

1542, Feb.—Copy of a "Supplication" delivered by William Yattes and Ralph Goodknape, aldermen, to the King at Candlemas time, shewing that the city is in great ruin and decay, and very like to be in a few years clearly desolate, by the charge of the annual payment to the Earl of Rutland of 20 marks, and to the Dean and Chapter of 80*l.*; and whereas by their charters they were for their relief exonerated from payment of fifteenths and tenths, they are now by a late Act of Parliament passed without the customary proviso for their exoneration, charged with payment of 400*l.* for four fifteenths and tenths within four years; whereby most part of the citizens will be compelled in short time to forsake the city, to its utter desolation. Wherefore they pray that the said fifteenths and tenths may be remitted, and that the benefice and parsonage of Cottingham in Yorkshire may be appropriated to the Dean and Chapter in lieu of the annual payment of 80*l.* f. 289b.

On the cover of this volume is this memorandum of plate delivered into the common chamber by Mr. Knight, late mayor, on 4 Oct., 16 Eliz. [1574]:—

"First, a bason and ewer of silver, parcel gilt.
Item, three goblets of silver with a cover, double gilt.
Item, three silver pots with a cover, double gilt.
Item, one fair salt of silver with a cover, double gilt."

Vol. III. A volume containing 194 leaves of thick paper, foliated in the lower margin of the leaves, slightly mutilated at the beginning and end.

1541. An index of matters, on twelve leaves, is prefixed. This volume, as well as those that follow, has been bound within recent years. It comprises entries from 1541 to 1564.

1541, 14 Sept.—The waits' badges are described as chains with a silver cross. f. 2.

1542, 10 June.—The church of St. Peter at the Plea to be taken down, and the lead, ornaments, and bells sold for the use of the common chamber. f. 3.

——, ——. If any other church hereafter decay, or the inhabitants in any parish be assigned or disposed to go to any other parish, then the jewels, plate, ornaments, vestments, lead, bells, and utensils of such church shall be sold in like manner. *Ibid.*

——, ——. St. Anne's guild to be brought forth the Sunday after St. James' day [St. Anne's day *in* 1539, *supra, and in* 1547, *infra.*] f. 3ᵇ.

——, ——. The graceman of the great guild to deliver up plate to the value of 10*l.* for the use of the city; to be re-delivered again, or else the money for which it may be sold. *Ibid.*

——, 7 Sept.—George Seyntpoll, esq., appointed Recorder by letters from the Duke of Suffolk. f. 4.

1543, 18 Apr.—The archdeacon [George Heneage] to have assurance for the foundation of a chantry over the High Bridge for 5*l.* yearly after seven years next ensuing. f. 9.

——, 23 Aug.—The Recorder, Geo. Seyntpoll, remits all the burgess-money due to him for the last Parliament, viz., 8*l.* 14*s.* f. 10.

——, 24 Sept.—William Smyth, priest, and William Kempe appointed to go about the country yearly gathering for St. Anne's guild. f. 13 [*see also* 15ᵇ].

——, 20 Oct.—The constables to bring all the poor people within the city before the justices, and such as shall be limited to beg shall have a sign delivered them. f. 15ᵇ.

——, ——. 100*l.* delivered in, which had been given by archd. George Heneage to the use of the city. f. 16.

——, ——. The Recorder and ald. Will. Alanson to sue to the King for a release from the fee-farm rent paid to the cathedral church. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Petition to the King for relief from the said rent, praying for assignment of a benefice instead, but not specifying any particular one as in the petition in 1542. f. 18ᵇ.

1544, 25 Nov.—Enacted that all brewers shall tun their ale to their tipplers in "colles or soes," and in none other vessels. f. 23.

——, ——. Every alderman that hath not been mayor to prepare for himself *and his wife* gowns of crimson, and every one that hath been mayor to prepare for himself *and his wife* gowns of scarlet and tippets of velvet, to be worn at all principal feasts. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The second sword to have a new "scabot"; and those in whose mayoralty or mayoralties the "cheippe" of the best sword, and certain greyhounds, lions and dragons, of silver and gilt, were lost from the second sword, are to make them again. *Ibid.* [*See under* 15 Oct. 1549.]

[1545: *see entry of* 30 March, *infra*], 26 March.—Letter from Charles [Brandon] Duke of Suffolk to the mayor and aldermen, written from the Court, relative to their application to the King about the fee-farm

rent. At this present the King's affairs are so weighty and of such importance that as yet no conclusion can be had in the matter; but when convenient opportunity may serve, we will, according to our former letters, take so good an end as it shall be to your contentation. Yet we not a little marvel that ye will say us nay in a request for John Dyone to be one of your justices of peace, who is a man of good learning, judgement, and right meet for the same; wherefore forthwith proceed to his election, or else certify in writing why you make denial, by this bearer William Alynson, who hath right honestly and diligently applied your matters here very painfully. f. 24. 1544.

[1544], 6 June.—A previous letter from the same, "from oure howse besyde Charyng Crosse." At the request of Geo. Sayntpoll and Will. Alenson we have not only spoken with the lords of the Council but have also been a suitor unto the King, who most graciously considereth the decay of the city, and at my petition to him with the Lord Chancellor is pleased to aid the city with certain benefices to be impropriate for the discharge of your fee-farm; and at his grace's return out of France I trust the same shall be assured unto you. f. 25.

——, 36 H. VIII., 19 Aug.—At Hampton Court. Letter from Q. Katherine, appointed Regent during the King's absence, to the mayor and sheriffs, commissioning them to levy the second payment of the subsidy granted in Parliament. f. 25^{b}.

——, 9 Nov.—At Westm. Letter from the King to the commissioners directing the immediate gathering and payment of the subsidy, with all possible diligence, for sundry great and urgent considerations. f. 26.

1545, 30 March.—An answer to be made by letter to the letters of the Duke of Suffolk touching Mr. Dyone. f. 26^{b}.

——, 17 Aug.—The plate and money belonging to the great guild to be used for the suits to the King for the release from the fee-farm: but ald. William Yattes, in whose custody it was, utterly and obstinately refused so to do, but being threatened with a fine of 20*l.* and imprisonment, consented. f. 27^{b}.

——, ——. Yattes to have the money he hath spent at London out of the money that the archdeacon lent to the city. f. 28.

——, 5 Sept.—40*l.* to be returned to archd. Heneage, at his request, out of the 100*l.* he gave for the foundation of a chantry, he returning all the writings he hath concerning the same. f. 28^{b}.

——, ——. The mayor certifies that he hath received from ald. Yattes the plate and money of the great guild, and that the plate was sold for 23*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; this sum to be given to Yattes for the suits to the King. *Ibid.*

——, 17 Sept.—Agreed that the late mayor, Will. Smyth, notwithstanding that he and his wife did not use such housekeeping nor wear such apparel as they ought to the worship of the city, shall have the usual allowance, and shall also be discharged of a forfeit of five marks set on him, on condition that he gives the bellman an honest livery, and pays the money, 31*s.* 4*d.*, remaining due from him. f. 29^{b}.

——, ——. The bill of Will. Yattes of 18*l.* 4*s.* for expenses to and at London to be paid. *Ibid.* (Much more paid to him at several times subsequently.)

——. Lengthy instructions from the King to the commissioners for the last payment of the subsidy, which is cessable at Michaelmas next, desiring them to collect it in anticipation by 1 July at the latest. "And

1545. to this small demand we think our subjects will show themselves agreeable, and lovingly and frankly advance, remembering the manifold pains and labour of body, the travail and care of mind, which we have and do daily sustain for their sakes." f. 32b.

1545, 5 Oct.—William Smyth is, at his petition, discharged from the office of alderman, being aged and bed-ridden, and for a long time impotent and decrepit. f. 34.

——, 14 Nov.—William Yatts, graceman of the guild of our lady St. Mary, called the Great Guild, founded in Wykford, William Hill and William Smyth, clerk, wardens of he said guild, with the consent of the whole fraternity, brethren and sisters, for the relief of the city give to the mayor sheriffs and commonalty and their successors for ever, all the lands tenements and hereditaments belonging to the said guild, with all the evidences, deeds, charters, &c. concerning the same. f. 35.

——, 4 Nov. Lambeth.—Letter from the Duke of Norfolk in behalf of William Hynde, the town clerk, whose removal from his place some of his "backfriends" are endeavouring to procure, desiring that he may be suffered to continue in his office. *Ibid.*

——, 4 Nov. Windsor.—A letter from Sir Robert Tirwhyt to the same effect. f. 35b.

——, 29 Dec.—Resolved that Hynde shall continue as town clerk. *Ibid.*

——, ——. That suit be made to the King for relief from the fifteenth and tenth. *Ibid.*

1546, 20 Jan.—Letter of 10 Jan. from Sir Edw. North, Chancellor of the Augmentation, desiring the Council, in accordance with the King's commandment, to search for such parsonages in the King's gift as may be impropriated to the city for payment of the fee-farm of 80*l.* f. 36.

——, 5 Feb.—The plate belonging to the great guild is brought in. First, the chalice and the cover, double gilt, weighing 30 ounces. Item, the standing cup with the cover, double gilt, weighing 27 ounces. Item, the brod . . cup with the cover, double gilt, weighing 22 ounces. Item, one standing silver cup, parcel gilt, with the cover, weighing 15¼ ounces. Item, one dozen silver spoons, with gilt knops, weighing 15 ounces. Total value 24*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* f. 36b.

——, 6 June.—St. John's church in Newport, now decayed, shall be taken down; the lead, stone, utensils, plate, jewels, ornaments, and bells, to be sold for the use of the common chamber, and the money to be bestowed upon the suit to the King; but the books to be reserved for the church of St. Nicholas in Newport towards the maintenance of the service there. f. 37b. Further order on 10 Oct. 1547. f. 47b.

——, ——. The church of St. Stephen in Newland, now decayed, with the gutter of lead, the tile, timber and stone, granted to the sheriffs in place of 10*l.* given to them for the expenses of their office. f. 38.

——, 19 Oct.—Such poor people in every parish as are not able to work and get their living to have signs given them with which to ask alms weekly, and none to give any alms but to such as have these signs. f. 41.

1547, 17 Jan.—Rules for the jurisdiction of each alderman in his ward, with regard to buildings, the paving and cleaning of streets, expelling of vagabonds, punishment of unlicensed beggars, unlawful games (not specified) &c. f. 42, and at f. 68b.

——. Proclamation of the death of Hen. VIII. and accession of Edw. VI. f. 43.

1547, 21 Feb.—Letter from the Privy Council for levying of a subsidy. f. 43b. 1547.

——, 13 June. The procession and sight upon the Sunday next after St. Anne's day shall be brought forth as hath been in times past, and every occupation shall pay to the same as hath been accustomed. f. 44b.

——, *before Mich.* (*day omitted.*)—At an election for members of Parliament George Seyntpoll, esq., Recorder, received 29 voices, Thomas Grantham, gentleman, 36, John Broxolme, esq., 15, and William Yattes, alderman, 4. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Sept.—Order for a present to be prepared for the Lord Protector. f. 45b.

——, 10 Oct.—A chalice lately pertaining to the church of St. John in Newport sold to ald. Fawkener for 49*s.* at 4*s.* 8*d.* the ounce. f. 47b.

——, 5 Nov.—An inventory to be brought in of the jewels, plate and ornaments lately belonging to the procession of St. Anne's sight, and the same to be sold to the use of the common chamber. f. 48b.

1548, 21 Jan.—Five shillings to be given yearly to the poor of St. Swithin's parish out of the rent of Gressington house. f. 49.

——, ——. The bells now in the churches of the Holy Rood and St. Edward to be forthcoming. *Ibid.*

——, 25 Feb.—All impotent and poor people, beggars and idle persons, and all children above five years of age, to be viewed, that they may be put to labour or occupation or be otherwise ordered, according to the King's proclamation. f. 49.

——, 15 March.—The Bishop of Lincoln to have a present of two pikes, two tenches, two eels, and two breams, at his coming. f. 50.

——. [Presents were given this year to the Duchess of Suffolk and to the Duke her son of two cranes and four swans, and to the Earl of Rutland of three cygnets, six "bytters," and sixteen "knotts." f. 51.]

——, 20 Aug.—Every chief constable to see a pair of butts made within his ward. f. 51b.

——, 29 Sept.—Possession was taken of the church and parsonage of Surflett to the use of the corporation, according to the King's letters patent, Robert Margesson, parish priest of the same, and others being present. f. 53.

——, 11 Oct.—"Nota for a swanmerke belongyng to the parsonage of Surflet." f. 55b.

1549, 13 Feb.—The vicar of St. Mary's and Sir Robert Drewry to be called to make account of the stock and plate lately belonging to the Clerks' guild, and the shoemakers to make account of the stock and rents appertaining to the fellowship of shoemakers, and others to make account of the wood and timber of the church of St. John in Newport. f. 57.

——, 18 Feb.—The shoemakers confess to have 28*s.* in hand; it was agreed that Shoemakers' Hall be put to the north ward, and the chamberlain thereof to let it for as much as he can. f. 57b.

——, ——. All the evidences and writings concerning the said hall and fellowship to be brought in. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The keepers of the Clerks' guild promise to bring in 26*s.* 8*d.* for the profits of the guild, and all the plate, jewels, implements, books, writings, and evidences belonging to the same. *Ibid.*

1549. 1549, 15 Feb.—Presentation of Robert Margesson to the vicarage of Surflett. f. 57^{b}.

——, 8 Apr.—The bells of the chapel on the High Bridge to be taken down with the "topell"; the chapel to be made a dwelling-house and to be let. f. 59.

——, 4 June.—A survey to be made of all the houses and grounds in every parish, with their yearly rent, and a book to be made thereof; also a book of the lands and tenements belonging to any of the churches and their rents. f. 59.

It was thought convenient by the Council that of every 12*d.* of yearly rent 2*d.* should be paid for an honest stipend for a curate of every church that shall remain as a parish church, if it will thereunto extend. *Ibid.*

——, 27 June.—The mayor having exhibited a bill devised by the Bishop of Lincoln about payment of tithes, it is agreed that they be paid by every parishioner according to the ancient custom of the city and the King's late proclamation, and no otherwise. f. 60^{b}.

The council do not agree to a proposal by Mr. Burton for his having the chantry lands. *Ibid.*

——, 3 Aug.—The lead of the chancel of the late church of St. Peter at Plea secured to Vincent Grantham against the King and all other persons. f. 61. 34¾ cwt. sold to him 5 Sept. for 7*l.* f. 61^{b}.

——, 9 Aug.—The moiety of the chantry lands which had been purchased for the city by John Broxolme sold to the mayor and others for 20*l.*, which sum was paid 17 March 1554. f. 61. The other half, and 7 marks yearly from the great Guild, sold to the same. f. 69.

——, 15 Oct.—Ald. Will. Alynson to make account of certain dragons, greyhounds and lions of silver and gilt which were taken off the second sword in the time of his mayoralty. f. 65.

——, ——. Ald. Will. Dighton to make answer for the "cheipe" of silver of the great sword, which was gone in his mayoralty; a new scabbard to be made for the second sword; enquiry to be made who lost the buckle of silver of the great sword, and when. *Ibid.* [*See* 25 Aug. 1550.]

——, ——. The stocks, the iron door within the prison called the Kitchen, and the other prisons, to be repaired. f. 65^{b}.

——, 17 Nov.—Enquiry to be made of the burgesses of the city whether a pension of 4*l.* yearly claimed out of the parsonage of Surflet as payable to the late monastery of Spalding be discharged or not; and whether the lessee of the parsonage, George Herryson, be chargeable with it or not. f. 66.

——, 9 Dec.—Copy from the Exchequer records of the original license from Hen. III. to Bartholomew Burghersh to assign to the Dean and Chapter the 60*l.* of fee-farm rent from the city which the King had granted to him. f. 68.

1550, 21 Jan.—Every person to pave in front of his own house or ground. f. 69.

——, 15 Feb.—Where[as] at the present certain poor people are visited with the plague who are not of ability to help themselves, whereby they shall be compelled to go abroad within the city, to the great jeopardy of spreading abroad of the said sickness, for the speedy providing that they may be relieved and kept in, it is agreed in a Secret Council that all people who are or shall be visited with the plague shall keep within their houses and not go forth; and every alderman of the ward where such sick people are shall see that they be kept within their

houses and are relieved, for which every alderman is to pay weekly 4*d.*, and every one who hath been sheriff 2*d.*, with other persons of ability. f. 69[b]. 1550.

1550, 10 March.—The following rents are demanded by the Court of Augmentations from chantries: Tatteshall chantry 2*s.*, Dalderby 4*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, Fitzmartin 4*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, Cantilupe, 4*s.*, Flemyng and the guild of St. Anne 4*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, Burghersh 60*l.*, King Edward's chantry 40*s.*: answer deferred until the coming of the Recorder. f. 70.

——, ——. The following vii. articles are demanded in a bill subscribed by the curate and inhabitants of Surflett, and the answer is deferred until the coming of the Recorder. 1. For a deacon yearly to help to minister and to do other things that belongeth to that office. 2. For two lights to be found in quere in service time. 3. For ten shillings yearly in alms to poor people. 4. For bread and ale to the value of 6*s.* 8*d.* to be given to the parishioners upon Maunday Thursday yearly. 5. For the gift of a dinner or twopence in silver upon every offering day to all such persons as do help in the quere to maintain God's service. 6. For finding of strewing in the church four times in the year. 7. For finding of a common bull and a common boar to serve the whole town. f. 70[b].

——, ——. A present of two pikes, one bream, two tenches and three great roasting eels to be sent to the earl of Rutland. f. 71.

——, 26 March.—No person within the city, suburbs, or liberties to keep any greyhounds or hounds to hunt withal, except the mayor, the aldermen, and such as are or have been sheriffs, and these only to hunt by their own persons, and not to send the hounds to any other, f. 71[b].

——, ——. At the Easter Court leet, ordered that all brewers sell their ale at 2½*d.* the gallon. f. 72.

——, 28 Apr.—No person to fish with any seins or nets or lay any hopnet or any other kind of net within the common waters, but only to angle, from mid-May to the middle of July next. f. 72[b].

——, 3 June.—All lands, tenements, rents and profits belonging to any church that shall be hereafter defaced or pulled down shall from henceforth belong to the churches that shall stand and be parish churches, towards the living and relief of the curate and his successors of such church whereunto any other church shall be united. f. 73.

——, ——. A mansion house to be built for the vicar at Surflett with all speed, and part of the timber taken from defaced churches to go towards it. f. 73[b].

——, 16 June.—Four parishioners of St. Laurence to remain in ward until they have restored a bell lately taken by them out of the steeple of St. Laurence weighing 12 cwt. 30 lbs., or the said weight in bell metal, or else 16*l.* f. 74.

——, 14 July.—No one to draw with any sein within the common waters unto Michaelmas, except the Mayor to draw his draught for one day, and any fraunchest man to lay three days weekly any hopnets or "leipes," and to stang or angle according to the custom of the city. *Ibid.*

——, 2 Aug.—The lead of the churches united to be melted and cast in sows; and the bells, jewels, plate and ornaments to be brought to such place and persons as the mayor shall appoint. ff. 74[b], 75.

——, ——. A person to go to Boston about the purchase of a house for the vicarage of Surflet. f. 75.

1550. 1550, 2 Aug. The chapel of the High Bridge to be mended with lead. f. 75.

——, ——. The Duchess and Duke of Suffolk her son to have a present at their coming to the city, the mayor providing such things as he may, by consent, think most expedient. f. 75^{b}.

——, 25 Aug.—Proof to be given, after searching the cathedral and city records, to Hamond Sutton and — Thorold, esqs., that the church of St. Andrew in Wikford is a parish church, and not a church built by the Suttons of Lincoln, their predecessors, only for their own ease and commodity, and therefore claimed by them as their property. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. York to have part of the timber and stone of the late church of St. Margaret in Wikford, so that he build with the same in the city or suburbs. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. John Pope, chancellor of the cathedral, to be allowed to buy tile of the city, as he is and ever hath been beneficial to the city. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Will. Dighton discharged from making a new "cheipe" for the best sword, which is to be made at the cost of the common chamber. f. 76.

——, 1 Sept.—The bakers having given up the assize because wheat is above the price of 20*s.*, it is ordered that they shall bake their sail bread after the assize of 20*s.* until new order. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The lead of the churches defaced to be sold at 7*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* the fother, and the bells for 30*s.* the cwt. *Ibid.*

——, 6 Nov.—Orders about the bringing of corn, butter and cheese to market, in accordance with the King's proclamation. f. 79.

1551, 9 Feb.—The clothiers to have the seal for a petition to the King in the name of the city for such things as they shall think necessary for the continuance of their fellowship in the city. f. 80.

——, ——. A covenant with the clothiers that they shall have the late church of the Holy Rood with the churchyard and other land, for the making a walk mill, and a dye-house of the church, for so long as twenty broad cloths shall at the least be yearly made, paying 10*l.* if twenty broad cloths be not made; provided that if any great plague fortune to be within the city, then no advantage be taken against them for not making the cloths. ff. 80^{b}, 81.

——, ——. All such young people or other that live in idleness to be taken by the clothiers for 8 or 9 years, giving them meat, drink, clothes and other necessaries sufficient, and those who will not work to have one month's warning to avoid out of the city. f. 81.

——, ——. All persons who come to buy cloth, or who bring any wool, woad, madder, oil, alum, or other necessaries for cloth-making, to be free of toll for seven years. f. 81^{b}.

——, ——. The clothiers to have a seal for sealing their cloths, and such letters as they may desire to noblemen or worshipful men for help. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Any lawful means found by anyone for improving the trade to be sanctioned; Edmund Atkinson, the present mayor to be one of the fellowship. f. 82.

——, 17 Apr.—The churches of St. Margaret and St. Andrew to be taken down and sold to the use of the common chamber. f. 82^{b}.

1551, 16 May.—Whereas the clothiers cannot have the Shoemakers' Hall as was granted to them, they shall have a house at Butter-Cross, paying 40*s.* yearly. f. 83. 1551.

——, 5 Aug.—The mayor to have the church of Trinity parish at an appraisement. f. 84.

——, 10 Sept.—Every one of the clothiers shall pay to the graceman and fellowship of the mystery of weavers of the city, for their upset to be sworn brethren unto the said fellowship 3*s.* 4*d.*, and 12*d.* yearly for their looms' farm, and shall not work or cause to be wrought any other cloths but their own or the work of other clothiers upon pain of the penalties contained in the charter of the weavers. *Ibid.*

——, 22 Nov.—Five shillings yearly to be paid to Sir Edmund, master of the hospital of Spital-on-the-street, for a piece of ground in Newport which he claims as belonging to the hospital. f. 88[b].

——, ——. Bread to be baked after the assize of 22*s.* 6*d.* the quarter. *Ibid.*

——, 23 Nov.—Appraisement of the church of St. Andrew. *Ibid.*

"First, the waynescot above the hye alter with the cobert appraised to - - - -	vi[s] viii[d]
Item, the old chist - - - -	viii[d]
a lectourne - - - -	i[d]
Item, the rodelofte with all thynges perteynynge to the same - - - -	xiii[s] iiii[d]
Item, the partition of the chappell with the dores - - - - -	vi[s] viii[d]
Item, the selloryng over the tombe - -	xii[d]
Item, the waynscott of the selloryng in the chappell, with the tymber in the north yle and chappell - - - - -	xl[s]
Item, the plate in the chappell with the plate of other stones in the churche [*i.e.* the inlaid brasses] - - - - -	xl[s]
Item, the roffe of tymber over the bodye of the churche - - - - -	xx[s]
Item, the tymber of the roffe of the quere -	xx[s]
Item, the tyle over the bodye of the churche -	iii[l]
Item, the tymber roffe of the south chappell -	vi[s] viii[d]
Item, the tymber and flores in the steple -	iii[s] iiii[d]
Item, the iren leade and glasse in xiiii wyndowes - - - - -	xl[s]
Item, three bells - - - -	viii[l]
Item, the steple roffe of tymber - -	vi[s] viii[d]
Item, the leade in the fonte stone - -	vi[s] viii[d]
Item, the leade over the hole churche - -	lvi[l]
Item, all the stone of the seid churche and steple - - - - -	v[l]
Item, the ii churche dores with the locks -	v[s]
Summa, lxxxii*l.* xvi*s.* ix*d.*"*	

——, ——. Names of thirty persons to whom the parish church of the Trinity in Wikford was sold for forty marks. f. 89.

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* This has been printed, but from an incorrect copy, by Precentor Edmund Venables, in Vol. XIX. of the *Reports and Papers of the Associated Societies of Lincolnshire*, etc., part ii., 1888.

1551. 1551, 8 Dec.—The two waits [to which number they are now reduced], are to have their liveries, and to wear two silver collars. f. 89.

——, ——. The arch under the High Bridge, and the "greysse" (*gressus*, steps) to be repaired. f. 89b.

——, ——. In consideration that there hath been a great "lythe" and no wind for five weeks or more, whereby the bakers and other persons could not get any corn ground at the windmills, and so could not bake any bread for the sustentation of the king's people, and some persons in consequence get their wheat ground at one horse-mill and some at another and upon querns, as hath seldom been seen within the city, and by reason of such scarcity some in the beginning bought horse-bread to eat but at length could not get any of the same, to the great famishing and destruction of the whole people of this city and especially of the poor, it is ordered that the bakers shall bake their bread after the assize of 24*s.* the quarter of wheat, and speedily provide carts or horses to send their wheat and other grain to be ground at water-mills in the countries. *Ibid.*

1552, 10 March.—The chapel on the High Bridge to be again repaired with lead. f. 90.

——, ——. The late parish church of St. John to be repaired, and the ornaments, implements and goods belonging to the same to be sold. f. 90b.

——, 28 Apr.—The lease of the parsonage of Surflett to John Harrison, clerk, forfeited by his felling of trees. f. 91b.

——, 9 June.—The Mayor, his brethren, and the Recorder to take order for a present to be given to the Duke of Northumberland at his coming to the city and how he shall be met. f. 92b.

Agreed that the present be four cranes, six cygnets, six "bytters," twelve "godwyttes," two dozen "knottes," two great pikes, two great breams and two great tenches. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Cecil Waddysworth committed to ward for detaining a chalice that belonged to the church of St. John in Wikford; 20*s.* to be paid to Mrs. Wright for one that belonged to the church of St. Edward. *Ibid.*

——, 21 Sept.—The parish church of St. Laurence from the chancel westward with the steeple leased to William Clarke for 41 years, he paying yearly 20*s.*, and keeping it in repair, and at the end of the term re-delivering it, sufficiently covered with tile and the steeple with lead, with all the buildings which he may have set up. f. 95.

——, 3 Nov.—Agreed that although the claim of Thomas Husey, esq., and Ambrose Sutton, esq., to the late parish church of St. Andrew was lately disproved by ancient records, yet because Mr. Sutton's ancestors were beneficial to the city, and also for the obtaining of their good will, it shall be offered to them for 53*l.* f. 97.

——, 16 Dec.—Agreed at a Secret Council that whereas the Act for the union of churches does not contain words sufficient for the plate, jewels, bells, ornaments and implements to be employed for the use of the city as was meant at the sueing out of the Act, and the King's Commissioners of church goods consequently now require inventories of the aforesaid things, 40*s.* shall be given as a reward to Will Dalyson, esq., serj. at law, one of the commissioners for the church goods in the city, to set his hand and seal to a certificate made to the Privy Council, in order that they may be had and enjoyed to the use of the city without suit or trouble. f. 98.

1553, 18 Jan.—The Earl of Rutland to have, according to his letters to the mayor, the nomination of one of the burgesses for Parliament, with a present of a tun of claret wine for his goodness heretofore, and hereafter to be showed. f. 98b. 1553.

——, ——. Agreed that George Stamp shall have the church of St. John in Wikford for 20*l.*, on condition that he do not take the church down, nor the steeple nor the aisles nor the battlements nor any part thereof, nor take away any tiles or lead; unless he build an able dwelling-house with chambers for an honest man to dwell in against the street, and then to take down the steeple only. *Ibid.*

——, 18 March.—By reason that there are very many tipplers within the city, and there is not only much idleness and evil rule maintained within such tippling-houses, but also much bribery and petit larceny used and maintained, it is agreed that there shall be only thirty tipplers in the whole city and suburbs, which shall be admitted by the mayor, justices of peace and aldermen. f. 101.

——, ——. The Tailors' charter to be renewed. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Brewers to sell their ale at twopence the gallon. *Ibid.*

1553.—Particulars of the values of the vicarages of the united churches, with the payments reserved out of them, and the assignment of the parishes, as signed by the Bishop, Mayor, and Sheriffs. f. 104a, b.

Form of receipt from the Earl of Rutland for 20 marks in full payment of one year's rent of 100*l.* from the city. f. 104b.

——, 7 Oct.—Articles for the weal of the city are to be devised in writing, and sent to the city burgesses at Parliament. f. 106.

——, ——. The Recorder to speak to the Lady Elizabeth's council concerning the advowson of Hanslape granted to her by Edw. VI. which had been granted to the city by Hen. VIII. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The swordbearer and macebearer to have two livery coats of one colour yearly. *Ibid.*

——, 15 Nov.—The waits to have their liveries of red cloth as they had last year. f. 106b.

——, ——. The clothiers to apply to Parliament for the Queen's license to buy and sell their wool through Lincolnshire, shipping at Boston haven; and to sue that the towns and hamlets within four or five miles of the city may be comprised within the liberties and contribute to all charges. *Ibid.*

1554, 1 Feb.—The Recorder claims 6*l.* 12*s.* for 66 days' attendance at Parliament. f. 108.

——, 18 March.—The Earl of Rutland to have 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* towards his costs in the Queen's affairs in setting forth a band of men. *Ibid.*

——, ——. William Rotheram, alderman, elected a burgess for Parliament, and to have the parsonage of Surflet, but not the advowson, for 21 years, for 24*l.* yearly, paying 11*l.* yearly to the vicar, and 4*l.* to the Queen, &c. f. 108b.

——, 20 June.—Whereas there is a writ of *quo warranto* procured by one David Brian against the city, it is agreed at a Secret Council that a present shall be sent to the Queen's Attorney with a letter from the Recorder. f. 109.

——, 6 July.—Agreed at a Secret Council that St. Anne's guild with Corpus Christi play shall be brought forth and played this year, and that every craft shall bring forth their pageants as hath been accustomed, and all occupations to be contributories as shall be assessed. f. 110.

1554. 1554, 20 July.—Secret Council. The Queen's Attorney to have a present of two cranes and four cygnets, f. 110b.

——, ——. David Brian committed to ward for 14 days without bail for disobedience to the mayor and aldermen, for breaking the stocks, for calling the mayor a false man and a butcherly harlot and the aldermen all false harlots, and for assaulting their officers. *Ibid.* On 25 July he humbly submits himself, and on 5 Aug. he is discharged of all forfeitures incurred, on promising not to molest or sue any officer for any matter heretofore alleged, and to pay 40*s.* f. 111.

——, 6 Oct.—William Couper to go to London to answer to the writ of *sub pœna* brought against him by David Brian. f. 114.

——, 25 Oct.—The yearly rent of the manor of Canwick granted towards the allowance to mayors. f. 114b. Further grant to the mayor, sheriff, &c. f. 118.

——, ——. A chest to be provided with three locks and three keys to remain in the mayor's dwelling-house for the money of the corporation. f. 115.

——, ——. Agreed that the city shall be a free city and shall from henceforth be reputed and called the free city of Lincoln, viz. that all persons coming to buy or sell any manner of wares shall be free of all market tolls, &c., except that every fraunchest and unfraunchest man shall pay their yearly pence, and every unfraunchest man the window fines, and every stranger shall pay stallage at every fair. f. 115b.

——, 29 Nov.—John Stoytt, clerk, appointed vicar of Hanslape. f. 116.

1555, 24 Jan.—The stones of St. Andrew's church to be stayed for 3*l.* which Mr. Husey denieth to pay. *Ibid.*

——, 4 Feb.—Three waits again appointed with collars of 28, 27, and 26 links respectively and escocheons. *Ibid.*

——, 20 March.—Forasmuch as John Stoytt, vicar of Hanslape, is a master of arts and well learned in the laws and gospel of God, and out of the love the mayor and his brethren bear to the Bishop of Lincoln and archd. Pope, and also because the said parish is a very great parish and cure which the vicar is not able to serve alone without the help of other priests under him, it is agreed that he have an annuity of 29*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, with a sufficient house, orchard and garden. ff. 117b, 118.

——, 31 March.—The Bishop, in consideration of his writing favourable letters to the Lord Chancellor and others for the renewing of the great charter of the city, to have a present of a great fat pike and two breams. f. 118b.

——, 3 June.—St. Anne's guild to be brought forth as hath been heretofore accustomed; Sir William Smyth to have 5*s.* yearly for his pains about the same and to be forgiven 5*s.* that he oweth. f. 119b.

——, 3 and 9 Aug.—Thomas Grantham, clerk, appointed to the vicarage of Hanslape upon Stoytt's resigning it to him, upon the condition of his lending 40*l.* to the city should it be needed for money to be paid to the Earl of Rutland. f. 121.

——, 19 Aug.—Three chalices to be sold to the masters of the Close, the lead of Trinity church to be sold at 11*d.* the score, and the brass pot of the Great Guild at 33*s.* 4*d.* the cwt. (at 112 lbs. to the cwt.), towards money to be paid to the Earl of Rutland towards the redemption of the annual rent payable to him. f. 121b.

——, 24 Sept.—Robert Ferrour, secretary to the Earl of Rutland, nominated by him to be a burgess at the next Parliament; a present to be given to the earl at his coming to the next assizes. f. 123.

1555, 24 Sept. A present of 5*l.* or under to be sent to the Queen's Attorney at Stamford. f. 123. 1555.

——, ——, (and 21 Feb.).—Letters to be sent to Newark and other towns which take toll of the citizens contrary to their charter; if they continue to do so, then toll will be taken at Lincoln. ff. 123[b], 126[b].

——, ——. Assessment for a fifteenth and tenth "called the tax," and the assessment of the burgess money. f. 124[a, b].

1556, 21 Feb.—No beer-brewers to have their cart-wheels shod with iron. f. 126[b].

1557, 13 Feb.—The vicar of Hanslape to be moved to pay the priest of Castlethorpe his wages quarterly as the priest of Hanslape, and at the vicar's commandment the priest of Castlethorpe is to help the priest of Hanslape (Sir Ralph Sutton) at all times of necessity, to bury, christen, and do all things in Hanslape that appertain to a priest to do. f. 130[b].

——, 5 May.—Ordered that no people visited with the plague go abroad; provision made for collections for relief of poor people visited with it. f. 131[b].

——, 25 June.—Communication to be had with the archdeacon of Bedford for the assignment of the parsonage of Belton to the earl of Rutland in commutation for the fee-farm rent. f. 132.

Arrangement with Thomas Grantham, vicar of Hanslape, for his resigning the vicarage to Sir Ralph Sutton, the curate there. *Ibid.* and 134[a, b].

——, 18 Dec.—Frauncis, mace-bearer to the Lord Chancellor, nominated by the earl of Rutland to be one of the burgesses for Parliament, and the Recorder, George Seyntpoll, elected for the other. f. 135.

1558, 20 Apr.—Order for final settlement with the earl of Rutland either by payment of money or exchange in lands or parsonages. f. 136.

——, ——. Further order respecting inspection for the plague. f. 136[b].

——, 30 July.—The parsonage of Surflet and 300*l.* given to the earl of Rutland in exchange for his rent. *Ibid.*

——, 22 Oct.—Orders for tipplers; to be bound with two sureties to keep good order, &c. f. 139[b].

——, ——. Orders about the aldermen's gowns and tippets. *Ibid.*

——, 13 Dec.—No tanners or glovers to go into the country on Sunday to buy any hides &c., except in fair times. f. 140[b].

——, ——. Mr. Ferrour to be continued as one of the burgesses for Parliament. *Ibid.*

——, ——. No one to tell abroad what has been said or done in the common chamber on pain of losing their franchise and being set in the pillory. *Ibid.*

1559, 16 Jan.—Anthony Tharold [afterwards called *Thorold*], esq., "learned in the law," elected Recorder. f. 141.

——, 31 Jan.—If it shall be enacted in this Parliament that the staple shall be within this realm, then the citizens shall sue for the staple to be in this city for the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Leicester and Nottingham as it was in the time of Edw. I., but if not, then that the corporation may have the "portsayle" and shipping of all the wool in the county of Lincoln, paying the custom thereof to the Queen, and

1559. may buy and sell wool to merchants and clothiers within the realm, notwithstanding any Act of Parliament to the contrary. f. 141[b].

1559, 31 Jan. To sue for an Act of Parliament to secure the parsonages of Hanslape, Hemmiswell, Belton and Surflet. *Ibid.*

——, ——. And for a charter annexing all the towns and parishes within three or four miles compass to the city; and specially for a pardon of the tax, and for the Queen's seal for a proviso to be excepted out of the Act of the fifteenths and tenths called the tax, as hath been accustomed, should such tax be granted at this Parliament. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Justinian Crome appointed solicitor to the burgesses at this Parliament, with a weekly allowance of 5*s*. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Memorandum that the bellman's tipstaff hath three bars of silver with a little ring of silver, to the value of 6*s*. 8*d*. f. 142.

——, 22 Feb.—Where[as] Mr. Cecil, the Queen's secretary, hath promised our citizens at Parliament to obtain a pardon under the privy seal of the two fifteenths called the two taxes, and where[as] Mr. Rich desireth a reward for his pains for going through with the pardon for the tax granted in Q. Mary's time, agreed that a letter be sent concerning the premises to the two citizens at Parliament, and that the macebearer ride to London with it, and have with him a pardon of the half of the four taxes under the seal of Hen. VIII. for a precedent. *Ibid.*

——, 25 Feb.—William Rotheram, alderman and justice of the peace, having contemptuously used himself at sundry times to the Mayor in calling him and rebuking him vilely, and having opprobriously broken out of ward being thither committed for his contempt and offences, it is with one assent agreed that he be expulsed from his office of justice of peace and from the council and aldermanship, that he be disfranchised, and never hereafter to be re-admitted by any mayor under penalty of 100*l*., and that when he come abroad in the city he shall by any officer be again committed to ward. f. 142[b].

——, ——. John Hall shall go to London to solicit the Queen's Council and others concerning the contempts, disobediences, evil doings and sayings, reports and slanders of the foresaid Will. Rotherham against the Mayor, and that the privy seal of the common council be sent to the Lord Chancellor or one of the Council by supplication containing the said misdemeanours, and for discharge of the *subpœna* brought against the Mayor by Rotherham, and to know what punishment or order shall be appointed him. f. 143.

——, 14 March.—Agreed that no alderman shall in the presence of the Mayor, revile one another with vile words, nor one of them call any other *knave*, *beggar*, or use any other undecent talk, upon pain of forfeiting 40*s*. every time and to be committed to ward until payment; nor any alderman or other officer rail or speak any untrue or vile words of the Mayor or of any alderman behind their backs and in their absence, upon pain of forfeiting for every time 20*s*., and no person miscall or revile any of the Mayor's officers in doing his commandment upon pain of forfeiting 6*s*. 8*d*. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The disfranchisement of Rotheram annulled in obedience to an order made by the Justice of Assize and others by force of special letters from the Lord Keeper; but he is never hereafter to be admitted to any manner of office whatsoever. *Ibid.*

1559, 18 March.—Rotheram is sworn anew to the franchise, paying the customary fees. f. 143[b]. [He deceased before 19 Jan. 1560. f. 151[b].] 1559.

——, 6 May.—Where[as] the clothiers in the broad looms covenanted to make yearly at the least twenty broad cloths, or else to pay 10*l.* for the church of the Holy Rood, and in diverse years now past there hath been made none or few, the executors of Will. Huchynson are to be called on for payment of the 10*l.* f. 144[a].

——, ——. The late chapel on the High Bridge not to be used as a brewhouse. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Ordered that the Common Council and aldermen duly wear their gowns. f. 145 (and 152[b]).

——, May–Sept.—Suits preferred at London for relief from the taxes charged on the parsonages of Hanslape and Belton, &c. ff. 145[b], 146[b], 147.

——, 14 Oct.—Every victualler shall "spare inne" (*in marg.* "For sparrynge of shop wyndowes") their shops upon the Sundays or other holy days when the second peal shall ring to service, and none shall keep any servants or other persons in their house at play or idly there remaining in the time of divine service upon the same days upon pain for every time of 6*s.* 8*d.* f. 149.

——, 4 Nov.—A couple of fat oxen to be given to the earl of Rutland that he may be good to acknowledge a recovery and fine of the fee-farm bought of him. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Nov.—The assurance between the earl of Rutland and the city brought home to the hall from London. f. 149[b].

——, 2 Dec.—20*s.* yearly for twenty years, granted to Justinian Crome, lately sheriff, being in great poverty, in consideration of the great pains he took for the city. f. 150.

——, ——. The bellman to have a livery coat yearly. f. 150[b].

1560, 10 Jan.—John Manning to have 8*s.* yearly and sufficient livery coat cloth, on condition that he work in his occupation for the mayor and commonalty, and oversee and order the idle and poor people dwelling in and resorting to the city. f. 151.

——, 22 Jan.—A dinner to be given to the commissioners of the subsidy. f. 151[b].

——, ——. The Mayor to gather the "bustage* money," or half tax, which is yet behind for Mr. Grantham's time [1557-8], as much as he can get with favour. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Two pair of stocks to be made, one for the south ward and one for the north. f. 152.

——, ——. The sheriffs' clerk hereafter shall not be of the Common Council, if the customary of the city appear to the contrary. *Ibid.*

——, ——. A stone wall to be made on the backside nigh Pulter hill, so that the people may go up Bower hill, and not on that other way. *Ibid.*

——, 14 Feb.—No citizen or fraunchestman to implead or sue another without the liberties of the city without license from the mayor, under pain of forfeiting his fraunchess and 20*s.*, as is contained in the

* This word is of frequent occurrence for a local assessment.

1560. customary book of the city, and, further, to remain in prison for 14 days without bail. f. 152[b].

1560, 24 Feb.—Stones to be taken from Trinity and St. Edward's churches for paving of the streets in Wikford. f. 153.

——, ——. A piece of ground mentioned called the *Vineyard*. f. 153[b]. [There have been earlier notices of it.]

——, March.—An agreement made with the town of Nottingham, at the assizes, that from henceforth neither party should take any toll or stallage of the other. *Ibid.*

——, 13 May.—Musters to be taken, according to the advice of the Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, and every man to provide harness and armour against 13 June, and the armour and harness appertaining to the common chamber to be made ready speedily, for the defence of this city and country. f. 154.

——, 8 June.—Where[as] there is certain money yet unpaid for the setting forth of the soldiers already sent to Scotland, it is agreed that it shall be paid out of the common chamber; and care is to be taken for setting forth of more men to the wars. f. 154[b].

——, ——. The parish church of St. John in Wikford to be taken down and sold. *Ibid.*

——, 6 July.—John Robynson, clerk, to be vicar of Hanslape, and to have the portion appointed by the letters patent of Hen. VIII. f. 155[b].

——, ——. Agreement to be made with the Chanter about his claim to the chancel of St. John's in Wikford; and the steeple thereof to stand. *Ibid.* 3 Sept. The chancel to be sold. *Ibid.*

——, 3 Sept.—The usher of the Free School to have 10*l.* for one year out of the rents of the three parsonages, so that the said school be kept in the old school-house within the city, and that the masters of the Close make it an able school-house and keep it in repair. *Ibid.*

——, ——. All the streets to be paved throughout the city, and every man to pave against his own house and ground. f. 156.

——, 10 Oct.—The discharge of the tax last granted to be pleaded this term. f. 158[b].

——, ——. The waits to go according to the custom, that is to say, from the feast of All Hallows to Candlemas, and to have livery coats from the common chamber, and such wages of others as have been used. *Ibid.*

——, 7 Nov.—George Stamp, alderman, sentenced to go to ward, lose his franchise, and pay 20*s.*, for removing a suit out of the city by writ of *certiorari*; but restored by the mediation of friends. f. 159.

1561, 12 Feb.—A present to be given to the earl of Rutland at his coming to the city in wildfowl, flesh and fish as can be gotten, and one to be sent to Boston to buy the same. f. 160[b].

——, 7 March.—A present to be given to the judges at their next coming of one pike, two breams, and two great eels. *Ibid.*

——, 5 Sept.—Martin Mason, executor of the testament of his late uncle William Yattes, alderman, to be sued for 100*l.* which his uncle willed to be lent to craftsmen and occupiers within the city, and to be disfranchised and forfeit 20*s.* for suing out of the city. f. 162. (He is elected sheriff in Oct. ff. 162[b], 163.)

——, ——. The Tailors' and the Shoemakers' charters to be sealed. *Ibid.*

1561, 2 Oct.—The late sheriffs having been indicted and fined for escape of prisoners, suit to be made in the Exchequer for the fine to be given to the city. f. 163. 1561.

——, ——. The waits to go yearly from the next morning after the leet court next after Michaelmas to the Annunciation : specified fees to be paid them by aldermen, sheriffs, and chamberlains. *Ibid.*

——, 4 Nov.—Lease of the late chapel on the High Bridge granted, with covenant not to use it for a brew-house or washing house to hurt or decay the arches. f. 164b.

1562, 26 Feb.—A present of three fat pikes, three fat breams, three tenches and three great eels to be given to the Duke of Norfolk at his coming, and such presents as the mayor and his brethren shall think necessary to Sir William Cecil, secretary, and the nobles, lords, and men of worship coming with the duke. f. 166b.

——, ——. A present to be given to the judges. *Ibid.*

——, ——. 6*s.* 8*d.* to be paid yearly to the parishioners of St. Mary in Wikford for the maintenance of the clock in the church of St. Mary. f. 167.

——, ——. The fishers shall in this time of Lent sell six herrings steeped or unsteeped for one penny. *Ibid.*

——, 16 May.—Appointment of persons in each ward, according to the Queen's proclamation, to see the Statute of apparel executed. f. 168.

——, 26 Feb.—A copy of the Tailors' Charter, or ordinances (in number seventeen) as renewed 1 Nov. 1561 and sealed 26 Feb. 1562. ff. 169–171.

The officers to be a master, two wardens and a dean. The ordinances, which are very lengthy, correspond as regards the regulation of trade in some particulars to those re-established and confirmed in the year 1679, a summary of which will be found under that date, *infra.* But they also contain other provisions, common to the following charters of other companies, for the prevention of quarrels, the allowance of sixpence weekly to poor members and of the charges for decent burial, &c.

——, ——. The Shoemakers' Charter, containing twelve ordinances, sealed the same day. f. 171b.

The charter begins with reciting that the Company of Cordwainers have frequented and used certain laudable customs for their own good government and the true serving of the commonwealth of those necessaries which appertain to their faculty, as by a charter made in the year 1399, and in the seventh year of the noble prince King Richard II. at large appeareth, in which charter, ratified under the seal of this city 27 Sept. in the 8th year of King Henry VIII, as there is contained matter of abuses and small importance, so is there also mentioned certain necessary articles worthy of continuance. The first ordinance provides that the officers shall be two masters and a dean, instead of, as formerly, a graceman, two wardens and a dean ; II, III, V, VI are regulations as to members, foreigners, &c. similar to those in the charters of other companies ; IV provides for the decent burial of poor members ; VIII. No manner of person being a householder and an open occupier of the said craft shall colourably hire or wage any journeyman from the service of any other, without the license and will of his master, upon pain of forfeiting 13*s.* 4*d.* ; IX. No man shall keep any markets upon the Sundays, as in carrying their wares to the church

1562. doors, or any other places into the country, unless it shall be to any open fair, or to any gentleman or other honest person or persons in time of necessity, upon pain of 13*s.* 4*d.*; X. No cobler shall use or occupy the craft of cordwainer in making shoon of new leather or of any horse skin, or other unlawful leather, in deceit of the common people, upon pain of 5*s.*; coblers to be viewed and searched four times yearly, if need require; XI. No one to keep two shops or more, and all to sell only in their own open shops where they dwell. XII. No one shall bear any manner of weapon defensible, against the peace, and come therewith into the hall of the company at any time of assembly; in such case it shall be lawful for the masters and dean to take any such weapon and the value to be forfeited. Doubts respecting these articles to be referred to the decision of the mayor and the two masters.

1562, 6 Aug.—The usher of the Free School to be paid his half-year's stipend at Michaelmas, and then to have warning not to trust to any more stipend until such time as the masters of the Close and the mayor and his brethren have agreed touching the reparations of the school-house and the continuance of the school there. f. 173.

——, 5 Nov.—Eastbar gate, Clasgate gate, Newland gate, and Westbar gate to be amended and hung, so that they may be shut at night time, and their walls to be mended. f. 175.

——, ——. A house to be bought for the mayor to be used during the mayoralty. *Ibid.*

——, 15 Dec.—Workmen and labourers out of work to stand every morning at Stonebow for one hour at the least, with their things they work withal, that those who lack workmen may find them; on pain of imprisonment. f. 175^{b}.

——, ——. Charter of the painters, gilders, stainers and alabaster men, or gild of St. Luke as founded in 17 Hen. VIII., 1525, in thirteen ordinances; "pro meliori intellectione omnibus fratribus ejusdem gildæ in Anglicanis verbis expressa et scripta." f. 177.

This exhibits the pre-Reformation ordinances, in their original shape. The first ordinance provides that on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Luke every brother and sister shall attend upon the graceman and wardens, and go in procession, having a great candle to be borne from an appointed place to the Cathedral Church, and there "ii of every" [*qu.* every two?] of the brethren and sisters to offer one halfpenny or more after their devotion, and then to offer the great candle before an image of St. Luke within the church; and any who are absent without lawful cause to forfeit one pound of wax to the sustentation of the said great candle. The second ordinance provides for the dining together of the fraternity on that Sunday for love and amity and good communication to be had for the weal of the fraternity, every brother paying for himself and his wife there present, 4*d.*; absentees to forfeit one pound of wax towards the aforesaid candle. And the third ordinance is that four "mornspeches" shall be holden yearly in such place as the graceman shall assign, for ordering and good rule to be had and made amongst them; absentees to be subject to the like penalty as above. Ordinances IV–XI and XIII regulate the taking of apprentices and the setting up in trade, forbid the employing of strangers, provide for the settlement of disputes, the examination of work not sufficiently done after the sample, etc. XII provides for the obits. "When it schall happen any brother or suster of the seid fraternytye to departe and dicease from this world, at his fyrst masse the graceman and wardens for the tyme beyng schall offer of the seid goodes and cattelles of

the seid fraternytye iid, and at his viiith day or xxxth day every brother and suster to gyve to a pore creature a signe to be made and delyveryd by the deane of the seid fraternytye for the tyme beyng; for the whiche signe every brother and suster schall gyve to the forseid deane *ob.*, with the which mony so gathered the seid deane to buye whyte breade, and to gyve to every pore man or woman so cummyng with any of the seid signes *ob.* in breade. And this to be done and devided at ye parisshe churche wher the seid brother or suster diceased or elles last was dwellyng within the cyty of Lincolne." A provision follows that the decision of ambiguities or doubts about the forfeitures prescribed shall be referred to the mayor and four aldermen to be summoned by him. 1563.

1563, 2 June.—The letters patent of the union of churches delivered to three inhabitants of the parish of St. Peter at Arches, who say that they have the two paper books of the said union under the hands of the bishop and justices. f. 177[b]. [Returned, to remain in the Guildhall amongst the records, on 19 Aug. f. 179[b].]

——, 18 May [June?].—There shall be a common strike according to the standard, which shall be with an iron chain fixed under a pentice to be made above it, under the churchyard wall of St. Mary in Wikford, nigh the conduit there, against the market, that the people may measure their corn and grain of all kinds with the same. f. 178.

——, ——. There shall be provided four hooks and clamps of iron and thirty leather cans for the quenching of fire if any casualty of fire happen. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. Ayscugh to be spoken with touching payment of the subsidy for the lands of the corporation, and to have for his goodwill to stay the matter one hogshead of wine. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The sheriffs shall have two axebearers who shall wait on them, and have meat and drink and reasonable wages of them. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The oath of the searchers of leather. f. 178[b].

——, 17 July.—All such artificers and craftsmen dwelling in the city and honest occupiers, who are unfraunchest, shall have the fraunchesse for so much money as the mayor and his brethren shall agree unto, any act, law or ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding. f. 179.

——, ——. All occupations and mysteries within the city shall have their charters under the common seal, containing such orders and statutes as by the oversight of the mayor and his brethren shall be thought expedient. *Ibid.*

——, 18 Sept.—The dyers or lytsters being now of a wealthy and commodious occupation, so that they need not use or trade any other occupation or craft, it is agreed that no dyer or lytster shall after the feast of St. Martin next occupy or trade anything belonging to the occupation of sherman or fuller, neither tentors sheres nor handylls appertaining to shering or fulling, under penalty of five marks. f. 180.

——, 25 Sept.—Every person of the Common Council, either than the Mayor and his brethren sitting on the bench, shall stand upon his feet during such time as he shall speak in any matter, under pain of imprisonment and fine of 40*d.* f. 180[b].

——, ——. A mayor's cook appointed, to have 13*s.* 4*d.* and a livery coat yearly. f. 181.

——, ——. Rates and taxation of wages as set forth by the justices of peace for the city of Lincoln, in pursuance of the Act of Parliament made in Jan. last. *Ibid.*

1563. To the table itself is prefixed a statement that the mayor and justices have taken into consideration the scarcity and dearth of all kinds of victual at Lincoln at this time, the quarter of wheat being sold for 40*s.*, the quarter of rye for 36*s.* 8*d*, the quarter of malt for 22*s.*, the quarter of beans, pease and barley for 26*s.* 8*d.*, the quarter of mutton and veal for 20*d.*, the quarter of beef for 16*s.*, five eggs a penny, the butter cake weighing $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. five pence, the stone of cheese after 20*d.* At the end the table is described as "Imprinted at London in Powles Churche yard by Richard Jugge and John Cawood."

1563, 13 Nov.—All resiants of the age of twelve years and above to appear yearly at the two courts leet to be sworn to the Queen her heirs and successors. f. 183[b].

——, ——. No bread or ale to be carried on Sunday at no time of the day, nor upon any festival days in the time of divine service, without licence of the mayor, under pain of 12*d.* *Ibid.*

——, ——. Orders for wearing of gowns and liveries, and maintenance of ancient laws corrected according to the statute laws. f. 184.

——, ——. If the masters of the Close of Lincoln will repair and maintain the old school-house, and provide a good schoolmaster and an usher, then the usher shall have 5*l.* yearly towards his wages. *Ibid.*

1564, 29 Jan.—The oldest charter or charters from the Queen's progenitors to this city touching the discharge of tolls shall be shewed to the mayor and corporation of Cambridge. f. 184[b].

——, 4 March.—Agreed that a standing play of some story of the Bible shall be played two days this summer time; persons appointed to gather what every one will give to the play. f. 185. [*See the last entry in this volume of the Register, infra.*]

——, 13 May.—There shall be provided a schoolmaster to keep a free school within the city, and to have yearly out of the parsonages appertaining to the city 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* f. 186.

——, 4 July.—Orders for licensing of brewers, victuallers, tipplers, and beer brewers. f. 186[b].

——, 8 July.—At a Secret Council Martin Hollington, an alderman, is disfranchised for sueing in the Common Pleas at Westminster, and for divers other offences and disobediences. f. 187. This is signed by the Mayor, Recorder, and eleven others, of whom five sign by marks.

——, 13 July.—Further order in a Common Council that the said Hollington be displaced from his aldermanship; signed by the Mayor (not the Recorder) and thirty-six others, of whom seven sign by marks. f. 187[b].

——, ——. An usher, whose name is omitted, appointed for the free school, to have yearly 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* f. 188.

——, ——. William Grantham, gentleman, disfranchised for sueing at Westminster. *Ibid.*

——, 21 Aug.—The great charter to be shown at Sturbridge for discharge of tolls there. *Ibid.*

——, 16 Sept.—Submission of Martin Hollyngworth (*sic*), draper, late alderman, signed by himself, acknowledging that he "was worthily and justly expulsed and disfraunchesed," and praying for restoration, with consequent decree for the same, with the condition that he is not to bear any office hereafter. f. 189[a], [b].

——, ——. It shall be lawful for the mayor to call Robert Mounson, esq., learned in the law [counsel for the city] at any time to the Secret or Common Council to have his aid. f. 190.

1564. 16 Sept. Remembrances of things done in the mayoralty of Rich. Carter. f. 190[b]. Among them are these: Southgate Bridge repaired; the Freemen's Hall new covered and ceiled, which was never before ceiled; the west tower by the water of Brayford repaired; Clasgate prison repaired; certain plate, double gilt, bought to serve the mayor at his table, viz., three standing cups, whereof one with a fair cover, and three goblets, whereof one with a cover, which cost 40*l.* 5*s.*; an iron chest within the council chamber, which cost 20*s.* 1564.

1563, 17 July.—Copy, as then examined and approved by the Mayor, &c., of the Smiths' charter, in ten ordinances. f. 191. 1563.

The Company is described as that of Smiths, Ironmongers, Armourers, Spurriers, Cutlers, Horsemarshals, and Wiredrawers, established for maintenance of good and cunning workmanship and extirpation of uncunning deceivers of the common people; and the statutes are confirmed by the mayor, &c., as remembering how necessary a thing it is for a craftsman to judge of a mystery, faculty or science, and for the better inhabiting of the city with men expert in the sciences aforesaid. I. The officers of the company are to be a graceman, two wardens and a dean; all admitted into the company to swear to be humble and obedient, and to observe these articles; none to be admitted unless known to be of good and honest conversation; any that are of rebellious, evil and malicious behaviour, after three monitions, to be fined 3*s.* 4*d.* II. Disputes to be referred to the decision of the graceman and four others. III. If any fall into poverty, or by reason of infirmity or age shall not be able to relieve himself, sevenpence shall be paid to him weekly from the chattels of the fellowship, and on his death the officers shall cause his body to be decently buried, and at his burial shall dispose to the poor of the city two dozen of bread, towards which charge every one shall pay yearly at every mornspeech day, and four times in the year, fourpence. IV.–IX. provide for the election of the officers, the four mornspeech days and the business then to be done of correcting defaults and settling accounts, for the trade of foreigners, the shoeing of horses, in regard to which no one of the fellowship shall shoe a horse which any brother smith has paired without his license, the levying of fines for defaults, the payments at the upsetting in the trade, and the attendance on the graceman at the guild-day in their best apparel. X. No foreign horsemarshal coming to the city shall occupy the mystery of "horsemarschallsey" above the space of three days unless he agree with the graceman and company. Doubts about these articles to be referred to the mayor and four aldermen.

1563, 17 July.—The charter (somewhat mutilated) of the Glovers, Girdlers, Skinners, Pinners, Pointers, Scriveners and Parchment-makers, in thirteen ordinances. ff. 192[b], 194.

The objects of the Company are expressed in the same words as in the preceding charter, and the officers are the same. The general character of the regulations also corresponds; but the ninth provides that no master or brother shall rebuke or revile one another before the graceman on pain of 12*d.*; the tenth that no master or brother shall entice one brother's servant from another until his master be content to part with him; the eleventh that no master shall ride forth into the country for any wares upon the Sunday . . . (*torn*) of any festival days, upon pain to forfeit for every time so taken or known, 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* The weekly allowance to brethren in poverty is 6*d.* at the least; and if any die not having wherewith to bury him, then he is to be decently buried at the common charges of the said occupations.

1564, July.—"A note of the perti . . . . the properties of the staige . . . . played in the moneth of July anno sexto regni 1564.

1564. reginæ Elizabethæ, &c., in the tyme of the mayoralty of Richard Carter, whiche play was then played in Brodgaite in the seid citye, and it was of the storye of Tobias in the Old Testament." f. 193.

"First, hell mouth, with a neither chap
Item, a prison with a coveryng
Item, Sara['s] chambre
} lying at Mr. Norton's house in the tenure of William Smart.

Item, a greate idoll with a clubb
Item, a tombe with a coveryng
Item, the citie of Jerusalem with towers and pynacles
Item, the citie of Raiges with towers and pynacles
Item, the citie of Nynyvye
Item, the Kyng's palace of Nynyve
Item, olde Tobyes house
Item, the Isralytes house and the neighbures house
Item, the Kyngs palace at Laches
} remanyng in Saynt Swythunes churche.

Item, a fyrmament with a fierye clowde and a duble clowde, in the custodye of Thomas Fulbeck, alderman."

Vol. IV. A folio volume of 255 leaves, extending from Mich. 6 Eliz. 1564 to Mich. 41 Eliz. 1599. Foliated by a contemporary hand at the foot of the leaves.

On a fly-leaf prefixed, mutilated at the edges, is the following curious Christmas poem, spoken or sung by the three city waits [representatives by their title of *Senators*, of the Three Wise Men?] as a warning beforehand for the right keeping of Christmas time, a ceremony called "Crying Christmas." [See under 1571 *infra*.] The leaf is headed "Anno xxv. Officii Willelmi Hynde communis clerici civitatis Lincoln," i.e. 1565, as appears from the heading of the first leaf of the Register itself.

"The first Senatour.

The Maker allmyghtye, the grounde of alle grace,
Save this congregation that be here present,
And bryng them all to the celestyall place
That with pacyens wyll here the effect of our intent.

The second Senatour.

Oure intent and purpose is auncyent customes to declare
That haue ben vsed in this citie manye yeres ago,
And nowe for to breake them we wysshe ye schuld beware,
For ther be grevous ponysshment for them y^t^ wyll do soe.

The thurd Senatour.

At the tyme of Cristmas myrthe hath ben made
Throughout all nacyons of the Crystiane faith,
And styll so to keip it ye nede not be affrayde,
For then was our Savyour bourn as the Scripture saith.

The first Senatour.

At that tyme saith Saynt Johne appeared our perfight lyght
And the Saveyour of all the world y^t^ faithfully trust in hym.
Saynt Luke in y^e^ second chapitour declaryng his strenght and myght,
Therfore at that tyme to be merye we wyssh ye schuld begyn.

The second Senatour.

The Aungelles with myrthe the schepperdes did obey,
When they song Gloria in excelsis in tuynes mystycall,
The byrdes w^t^ solemnytye song on every spray,
And the beastes for joye made reuerence in there stall.

The thurd Senatour. 1564.

Therfore w^{t} a contrite hart let hus be merye all
Havyng a stedfast faith and a love most amyable,
Disdaynyng no man of power greate nor small.
For a crewell oppressour is nothyng commendable.

The furst Senatour.

Whatsoeuer oppressor wyll be cruelle and not merye make
Schal be sore fettered in a dongion full deip
Wherin is todes and miteis w^{t} many a gret snayk,
That place is so dark you schall not se your fete.

Second Senatour.

Therfore Crystmas myrth I wold ye schuld esteme,
And to feare God and schewe y^{e} deides of charyty boithe man and wyff,
Orelles the people wyll assemble w^{t} weapons scherpe and keene,
Wherfore it wyll not prevaile to make any stryff.

Thurd Senatour.

Bycause that holye tyme all good people do prepare
Aswell kynges and quenes that is of most noble byrthe,
As also dukes, erles and lordes royally wyll faire,
And spend the tyme of Crystmas w^{t} joye and myrthe.

The first Senatour.

Forsomuch as all degrees within this r . . . . . .
Do hyghly esteym the tyme of Cry . . . . . .
To breke y^{t} honourable custom I wold none to . . . . . .
But spend y^{e} tyme in hearyng and folowyng Gods word.

Second Senatour.

That is the cheiff cause hither we were sent
To gyve the people warnyng to have all things perfightly,
For they that do not breakyth M^{r} Mayours comaundement
And accordyng to the order ponysshed must they be.

Thurd Senatour.

Therfore endevour your selffes to have all thinges well,
That no default be found neyther of riche nor pore
But at that tyme help your neighbures as S. James doth [tell ?]
Refresshyng the pouertye y^{t} cummyth to y^{e} dore.

First Senatour.

Breiffly we have declared theffect of our mynd
And I do not doubt but you wyll have it in remembraynce,
One neighbour to another I wyssh ye schuld be kynde,
For y^{e} tyme doith so spend nedes we must goo fro[m hence ?]

1564. The Second Senatour.

Here we cannot tary, the tyme passith . . . . . .
This mortall worlde is but van[ity] . . . . . .
All magistrates and rulers we wold ye sch[uld] . . . . .
Walkyng in your . . . . . .

The [thurd Senatour].

The eternall Lord haue . . . . . .
Unto other places . . . . . .
Power vpon you th . . . . . .
He yt all thynges . . . . . .

Amen."

1565, 7 Eliz.—John Hochynson, mayor, "anno xxv. officii Willelmi Hynde clerici communis." f. 1.

——, Jan. 20.—The lease of St. John's churchyard to be bought of John Grene, and a decent wall against the High Street to be made. f. 2.

——, June 9.—The tower at the Eastbargate which is decayed and fallen down to be set up and amended. f. 3^{b}.

——, ——. Mr. Richard Byrkyt to be vicar of Hemmyswell, at the instance of Mr. Elmer, archdeacon of Lincoln. f. 4.

——, Aug. 25.—The decayed town wall from the Westbargate unto the old Tower to be mended. f. 5.

The charter of the Tilers, Masons, Bricklayers, Plasterers, Pavers, Tilemakers, Glasiers, Limemakers, Milners [Millers] and Thekers [Thatchers]; in eleven ordinances. It begins with a paragraph similar to the introductory paragraph of the charters noticed before. f. 6.

Four officers to be yearly chosen; one to be graceman and master, two to be wardens, and one to be dean.

——, ——. "A note what implements of goods were lefte in the parsonage of Hemmyswell at the entre of William Dalyson, esquier, into the same." f. 7.

"In primis, in the parlour one table standyng of ii trestelles in the ground.

Item, in the same parlour, ix paynes of newe whyte glasse.

Item, in the same parlour, in the west wyndowe iii paynes of glasse."

Other glass in the chamber over the parlour and in the east parlour, and in the chamber above. In the hall two glazed windows on the south side, and a table on trestles. One frame for a door. A stable, five ox stalls, and a shed.

——, Oct. 4.—At a Secret Council. Alderman William Goodknappe having confessed what he had previously denied, that he had converted 10*l.* to his own use which he had received for the city, he is bound over to repay the same with a fine of 5*l.*, but allowed to remain an alderman. f. 7^{b}. But on the 25 Jan. following he is released from this payment altogether on condition that he do not hereafter claim in the right of his uncle Ralph Goodknappe any debts due to him from the city. f. 17^{b}.

The mayor and two aldermen sign the former entry with their marks.

1566, Jan. 26.—Agreed that the stage-play of the story of Toby shall go forward and be played in Whitson holydays next; the common chamber to bear 4*l.* towards the charges, and the orderers thereof to be appointed by the mayor and his brethrer. f. 10^{b}.

1566, March 9.—The mayor's cook to have 10*s.* for a reward, in consideration that it is thought him not to be meet to serve again. f. 11. 1566.

——, May 28.—William Vaughan to be vicar of Hanslape. f. 12.

——, ——. The lead and timber of St. John's steeple in Wikford to be taken to the use of the common chamber. *Ibid.*

——, July 9.—Westgate bridge to be amended and repaired with stones taken from St. Augustine's church. f. 12^{b}.

——, ——. Five marks yearly for his life granted to Thomas Wright, late alderman, in consideration that he is poor and sick and cannot help himself. f. 13.

——, ——. Agreed that the Wrights in this city shall have a charter. *Ibid.*

——, Aug. 22. Agreed that Hugh Pye, freemason, for that he is a good workman, shall have his franchise for 25*s.* and the officers' fees. f. 14^{b}.

——, Sept. 14.—All such persons as have contemptuously departed out of the hall after their coming for the election of mayor and sheriffs, to be bound over to appear at the next sessions to answer to such things as shall be objected against them, or else to be imprisoned. f. 15.

——, Dec. 5.—For avoiding of many great hurts, hindrances, and enormities of late time crept into this city as well by evil rule in ale-houses, being brewers, victualling-house keepers, and tippling houses, as also by the continued and daily resort, long-being and continuing of divers and many workmen, craftsmen and labourers in the same houses, there loitering and drinking of over-strong and mighty ale, to the increase of idleness and drunkenness, it is ordered that the mayor and justices of the peace shall forthwith appoint of the best and most honest inhabitants, meet for the purpose, to be common brewers and tipplers, and such persons shall sell their ale or beer to the tipplers by dozens and half-dozens to the tippler to be assigned, and not to sell any ale or beer in their houses; and every tippler that shall be assigned, to sell ale or beer by half-pennyworths or pennyworths, or by pots out of the house, and none otherwise, and only at such prices as the mayor from time to time shall appoint. f. 17.

——, ——. Order to be taken to prevent certain persons of the town of Bardney from repairing inordinately to Lincoln on market-days to make corn dearer. f. 17^{b}.

1567, June 12.—John Drope, B.A., to be usher of the free school. f. 18^{b}.

——, Oct. 15.—Twenty chaldron of coals to be bought, from Newcastle, to be sold to the poor and to none other. f. 21.

——, ——. No person that wears any livery of noblemen or gentlemen to be hereafter of the Common Council. f. 21^{b}.

——, ——. Similar orders to those given above respecting beer-sellers, adding that all brewers shall have small ale and single beer for poor people, and that all victuallers and tipplers shall spar in their doors at the time of divine service and sermon time. *Ibid.*

——, Nov. 24.—Letters to be written to the Privy Council for license for 20 strangers, householders, of good ability and good artificers, who have lately come to the city. f. 22^{b}.

1566. 1566, Nov. 24. The stage play of the story of old Toby, contained in the Old Testament, shall be played at the feast of Pentecost next, and the city shall bear towards the charges 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* f. 22[b].

——, ——. Six (in the next year, seven) poor men to have livery gowns at 3*s.* 4*d.* the yard. *Ibid.*

1568, March 20.—A pot of silver, lost by Mr. Ellys in his mayoralty, to be made of 16¼ ounces. f. 23[b].

——, ——. The mayor, instead of a butt of sack, to have half in sack and half in malmsey. *Ibid.*

——, ——. John Staynton, Mr. Archdeacon's servant, to be usher of the free school. *Ibid.*

——, May 8.—Dispute with Cambridge about tolls; search to be made in the Exchequer whether the charter of Lincoln or Cambridge be the older. f. 24[b].

——, ——. Forasmuch as Robert Mounson, esq., is pleased to make a free school of his own charges in the late Grey Friars, it is ordered that he shall have all the glass remaining in the free school towards the glazing of the windows in the new school. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The way to the "Cross of the Cliff" to be mended. *Ibid.*

——, May 29.—20*l.* allowed towards the rebuilding of the mansion-house and buildings appertaining to the parsonage of Belton, which had been all burned. f. 25.

——, June 19.—The mayor bought at London, of John Franklen at the sign of the Queen's Head at the corner shop in St. Paul's Churchyard, four dozen leather water-buckets for the city, which, with carriage and hanging in the hall, cost 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* *Ibid.*

——, July 8.—Two bookbinders admitted freemen. f. 25[b]. But one of them, Rich. Smyth, forgiven his franchise money, if he will leave the city. f. 32[b].

——, ——. Complaint made that little hospitality is kept at Hanslape parsonage, that there is no service at Castlethorpe, and the church of Hanslape is not well served, that the curate is badly paid, not quarterly but scantly once in the year; letters to be written to the farmer for a reformation, and that the curate have the churchyard for a reasonable rent. *Ibid.*

——, Aug. 9 and 19. Further grants made towards the re-building of Belton parsonage at the instance of the Privy Council. f. 26. 1569, Jan. 26.—A new lease. f. 31[b].

——, Sept. 18.—No inhabitant of the city to lend feather-beds or bedding for lucre to innholders or other inhabitants of the bail, to the hurt of the innholders and inhabitants of the city. f. 27.

——, ——. Where[as] persons who have been aldermen or sheriffs, on Sundays, holy days and market-days undecently go abroad with cloaks or other undecent raiment, and also with gowns, wearing hats, contrary to good order, it is agreed that anyone so doing shall forfeit twenty pence. *Ibid.*

——, Oct. 14.—Where[as] one cup of silver double gilt, parcel of the common plate appertaining to the city which was lost and hurt by Mr. [Leo] Ellys in the time of his mayoralty, should have been delivered whole and sound and as good as he received it, it is agreed that he shall be compelled to make the residue [of the plate] as good as he received it, and deliver it and the cup he lost before Christmas next upon pain of 10*l.* f. 29.

1568, Dec. 22.—At a Secret Council, agreed to give to Lord Willoughby a present of two fat pikes and two breams, and to the Recorder, who hath of late taken pains for the business of the city with certain of the Privy Council, two fat swans, or one fat swan and a fat turkey-cock. f. 29b. 1568.

——, ——. Mention of the cross called the "Quenes Crosse." *Ibid.*

1569, Jan. 19.—The proclamation of the city called the Mayor's cry, as now newly corrected and amended according to the statutes of the realm and the ancient customs of the city, shall be good and effectual hereafter. f. 30b.

——, ——. The charter of the city and the last pardon of a tax under the privy seal to be pleaded for discharge of a writ for gathering a tax. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Thomas Marsshe, stationer, shall have word to give attendance at the lottery now at the drawing thereof in the city of London for the adventure of this city, for the 7*l.* 10*s.* lately put into the same. f. 31.

——, March 1.—Mr. Ellys brought in a silver cup with a cover double gilt weighing 14 ounces at 6*s.* the oz. f. 33.

——, March 5.—The tax of a fifteenth and a deodand discharged. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Ordinances for orphans' goods devised and established for the town of Newark were openly read and well liked of, and it was ordained that the like ordinances should be drawn in form to take place for ever in this city. *Ibid.*

——, ——. It shall be lawful for all freemen to buy wood, coal, thakkes, or turf, for the relief of the poor, to be retailed and sold in the winter time, so that the price be always rated by the mayors &c. *Ibid.*

——, ——. All the gears of St. Anne's guild remaining in a tenement next to St. Benedict's churchyard shall be laid and kept in the lower chamber in the Guildhall, which shall be repaired for the same with speed. f. 33b.

——, ——. Some of the stones of St. Katherine's church to be kept for use, and the rest to be sold at one penny the cartload. *Ibid.*

——, March 10.—The Bishop and Justices of assize to have presents of pikes, breams or perches, tenches and eels, at their coming. *Ibid.* Similar entries at subsequent dates.

——, March 12.—Marks assigned to three bakers for distinguishing their bread by pricks. f. 34.

——, May 30.—At a court leet, agreed that any fraunchestman wearing the livery of any nobleman or gentleman before he bear office in the city may continue in such service with the license of the mayor, etc., the law and ordinance made in the time of Edw. IV. to the contrary notwithstanding. f. 34b. *See* Oct 8, *infra.*

——, July 9.—Ald. George Stampe sequestered and displaced until the next Common Council for troubling the sheriffs at Westminster when they were there about the great business of the city, whereby a *Quo warranto* is like to come against the liberties of the city. f. 35b.

——, June 15.—Case of alleged unlawful distraint by the sheriffs against one Thomas Wynterbourne, supposed to be outlawed, tried in the Star Chamber, in which the sheriffs are cleared, and a clerk to one of the secondaries of the court committed to the Fleet for falsely erasing

1569. the writ of outlawry: Wynterbourne is subsequently disfranchised. ff. 36, 37. Bound over, at the request of noblemen who have written on his behalf, to stand to arbitration, Jan. 12, 1570. f. 45^{b}. [*See under* 1585.]

1569, Sept. 1.—Ordinances established for orphans and their portions. ff. 36^{b}, 37^{b}–39.

——, Sept. 21.—Verdict by the jury before the commissioners for concealed lands in Bucks that there is not any sufficient evidence to find any concealed lands in Stock-Goldington or Castlethorpe, with a copy of a presentment made by one George Byrchemore, "I say that the "parsonage of Castylthorpe is ruinous and not well served, and there-"fore must needs be concealed." f. 41^{b}.

——, ——. Oath of the searchers and sealers of tanned leather and curried leather. f. 42, 42^{b}.

——, Oct. 8.—All freemen on admission to be sworn to the oath made in the time of Edw. IV. concerning the wearing of liveries. f. 44.

——, Dec. 28.—No artificer or labourer, under the degree of a chamberlain of the city, after monition by proclamation shall be or remain in any alehouse, *etc.* in the city on any work-day to drink or spend any money for any ale, beer, or any other thing there to be found, upon pain of 4*d.*, or go to the Close or Bail for the same under pain of 8*d.*, half the penalties for the prosecutor and half for the poor. f. 46^{b}. Also on Oct. 10, 1579. f. 115.

——, ——. Every alderman to provide four clamps of iron, for each ward, for casualty of fire. *Ibid.*

1570, March 10.—A writ (dated Feb. 13) sued out by one Mr. Bowyer for search for concealed lands. ff. 47^{b}, 48.

——, May 18.—Ale to be sold at 2½*d.* the gallon and beer at 2*d.* the gallon, upon pain of 40*d.* f. 48^{b}.

——, June 13.—A swan-mark to be bought of Thomas Wynterbourne, which was lately William Yatts', alderman, deceased. f. 49.

——, July 12.—Antony Thorold resigns the Recordership, to which Robert Mounson is appointed at his request, but the former to have 40*s.* yearly for life for continuing his counsel. f. 49^{b}.

——, ——. The master of the poor folks lately appointed to have 20*s.* yearly for keeping the bar-gates, and 20*s.* for the order of the poor, and driving away and punishing of vagabonds, strange beggars, and poor people out of the city. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Such persons as refuse to pay as they are assessed towards the setting forth of soldiers for the service of the Queen shall be kept in ward till they make payment. f. 50.

——, Oct. 22.—The outgoing mayor gives up these parcels of plate: three goblets, whereof one with a cover double gilt, two drinking pots double gilt, whereof one with a cover; the three goblets weighing 82 ozs. and the two pots 36½ ozs. f. 53.

1571, Feb. 22.—Twelve persons to be bound over to appear at the next assizes for riotously cutting down and carrying away trees. f. 54^{b}.

——, March 24.—Dr. Wilson, Master of St. Katherine's in London and one of the Masters of Requests, to have the freedom of the city, and to be one of the citizens in the next Parliament beginning April 2, and the Recorder to be the other. f. 55$^{a, b}$.

——, ——. Privies to be made in the prison called the Kitchen and in other prisons in the city. *Ibid.*

1571, March 24.—The second sword and the red velvet hat to be new covered. f. 55[b]. 1571.

——, March 27.—Alderman [John] Welcome to be solicitor for the affairs of the city at Parliament, at 4*s.* a day. *Ibid.*

——, ——. If a tax be granted, a discharge to be speedily sued for; and an Act to be procured discharging all penalties against the Under Sheriffs and their clerks, and that they may continue to occupy their office from year to year as the Under-sheriffs of London do. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Where[as] within the county of Lincoln, timber, wood, coal, thakk, turf and other necessaries have been almost clearly felled, taken away, consumed and spent by many greedy persons, owners of the same since the dissolution of the late religious houses, to the great decay of the poor ancient city of Lincoln, formerly served out of the said county with these necessaries for the relief of the said city and for setting the poor people on work; and for that there is yet some plenty of timber, &c. within the counties of Nottingham, Derby and York next adjoining, whence the said poor city could be well served if the same could be brought by water; [it is desired] that an Act of Parliament may be made for a commission to assess all persons within seven miles of the city for the dyking, cleansing and scouring of Foss-dyke, in order that sufficient water may be brought from the Trent to bring the said timber, *etc.* f. 56.

Also that an Act may be procured that all penalties incurred by virtue of any statutes or proclamations by inhabitants of the city may be assigned to the city. *Ibid.*

——, May 21.—At a Secret Council. The water that should serve the most part of the city being stopped that the people cannot have any conduit water, to their great hurt and danger of life by reason of corrupt water, and for that the common waters of the city are now low and something corrupt by reason of certain sinkers from kitchens, stables, swine-sties, and such other corrupt places descending into the said common waters, whereby great infection is like to ensue, it is agreed that every person, of what estate soever, shall before Sunday next, reform and correct all such sinkers and corrupt places, so as all infection of water may be avoided, upon pain of imprisonment for four days and four nights without bail, and 40*s.* in money; and no fishmongers shall hereafter put their fishwater into any waterchannels but shall convey it away into other meet places. f. 56[b].

——, ——. Orders for beer brewers. f. 57.

——, Oct. 31.—85 pieces of evidences relating to Thomas Grantham's lands, deceased, delivered in. f. 61.

——, ——. An annuity of 5*l.* granted to Nicholas Catskyn, clerk, so long as he shall be chaplain to the mayor for the time being, and for preaching as well at the parsonages appertaining to the city as also within the city. f. 61[b]. "Sir" Nicholas Catskyn, clerk, preacher, to have 5*l.* more wages yearly and a livery gown to the value of 45*s.*, Apr. 12, 1572. f. 63[b].

——, ——. The old robes which the officers cried Christmas withal to be made into decent cloaks for the said officers to cry the same yearly withal hereafter, and the rest of the utensils where the robes lie, which be of small value, to be sold. *Ibid.*

——, ——. 26*s.* 8*d.* granted to Robert Marshall's son, a student at Christ's College, Cambridge, towards his exhibition. *Ibid.*

1572. [Continual notices occur at this period of law-suits in London on various disputes and complaints.]

1572, April 12.—Hugh Pye, freemason, to have his freedom for 26*s.* 8*d.* and the officers' fees, so that he will remain in the city to work when he shall be required by the mayor for the time being. f. 63^{b}.

——, May 20.—Order respecting the mode of election of the Common Council, for the avoiding of contentions of late time stirred by the sheriffs and certain freemen. f. 64.

——, Aug. 4.—Two fat pikes and one bream to be given to the Earl of Cumberland, Lord Zouche, and the Dean of Lincoln. f. 65.

——, Sept.—At a Secret Council. The Earl of Lincoln at his coming to have a present of two fat pikes and six gallons of sack wine; and all the charges of himself and his children, with their wives and ordinary servants, during his being here, to be borne by the common chamber. *Ibid.*

——, Nov. 3.—Constables appointed to search out persons absenting themselves, without lawful impediment or license from the mayor, from attendance at sermons in the Minster every Sunday; such persons to be fined 2*d.* f. 69.

——, Dec. 9.—The stones of the crosses appertaining to the city which were lately cast down, viz., Butter Cross and the Cross in the late parish of St. Cuthbert, shall be gathered up and laid in some certain place to the use of the common chamber. f. 70^{b}.

1573, Jan. 31.—Lands and tenements bought of Thomas Grantham for 210*l.* f. 71^{b}.

——, March 16.—John Welcome displaced for ever of his aldermanship and any office, for various offences of opprobrious language and factious proceedings, and for disclosing to Dr. Wilson a secret letter from the mayor and aldermen to Justice Mounson the Recorder, by discovery whereof he did what he could to procure the displeasure of Dr. Wilson to the city, who hath been a very good and dear friend to the same. f. 72^{b}.

——, June 4.—Richard Bunche appointed Town-clerk on the death of Will. Hynde [who had been clerk for 33 years]. f. 74.

——, June 7.—Copy of a letter from the Privy Council with certain articles to be observed by persons who have grants of forfeitures under the penal laws, for the avoiding of murmurs among the people. f. 79.

1574, Jan. 14.—10*l.* to be given yearly to a schoolmaster, and citizens to be asked what they will give of good will. f. 79^{b}. The whole city to be assessed for the master, Feb. 19, 1575. f. 87.

[The settlement with the Earl of Rutland about his fee-farm rent is frequently under discussion about this time. And there are many cases of disfranchisement.]

1575, Feb. 19.—The great charter of the city to be enrolled in the Queen's Bench. f. 86^{b}. A further order on Oct. 11, 1578. f. 109^{b}.

——, Aug. 23.—No unfranchised man shall open any shop-windows, nor set any parchment or other wares in the streets to make any shew of sale, under pain of forfeiture of the wares. f. 88.

Articles of agreement and arbitrament respecting enclosures, made between the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, the Prior of St. Katherine's, the Master of Burton Lazars, and others, on the one part, and the

Mayor and Commonalty of Lincoln on the other, Jan. 12, 2 Hen. VIII. (1511). f. 92[b]. 1576.

1576, July 10.—Master Plumtre mentioned as schoolmaster. f. 95[b].

——, Sept. 15.—Agreed that the Mayor shall have yearly three hundred of "furres kyddes" of the "furés" growing at Bishop's bridge. f. 97.

——, Dec. 5.—William Mayson to be usher of the free school, and to have yearly 4*l.* and a frieze gown. f. 100.

A payment of 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly assigned to the clerk of Great St. Peter's, instead of St. Mary, for ringing the bell at 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. *Ibid.*

None but freemen to come to the Mayor's breakfast, and to come orderly in their gowns, upon pain of 3*s.* 4*d.* *Ibid.*

Every alderman, sheriff and chamberlain to ride with the Mayor about the fairs on the two fair-days. *Ibid.*

Christmas mirth to be proclaimed in ten or twelve places, and every alderman, etc. to ride with the officers. *Ibid.*

1577, Feb. 16.—Every housekeeper, except poor people, to pay towards the killing of moles one penny. f. 101.

——, Sept. 30.—The late mayor brought in all the plate, that is to say, a bason and ewer parcel gilt, three goblets with a cover double gilt, three silver pots with a cover double gilt, and a great salt with a cover double gilt. f. 104[b]. This inventory is yearly repeated.

——, Nov. 20.—License to —— Powle, *alias* Powley, to teach children to write, and such other learning as he can teach, within the city. f. 105.

1578, Sept. 14.—John Hyrd, son of Anthony Hyrd, to be usher of the school at Christmas,* with 4*l.* yearly and 10*s.* for a frieze gown, and Mayson, now usher, then to depart. f. 108[b].

——, Oct. 11.—6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be yearly paid to a learned man, to be appointed with the advice of the Dean, to be reader in the Minster and to preach weekly upon Wednesday in some parish church. f. 109[b].

1579, Feb. 26.—William Knowles appointed usher in the free school, because John Hyrd cannot attend at the time appointed. f. 111.

——, July 28.—Answer to a letter from the Earl of Leicester dated from the Court July 13, in which he desired that a lease in reversion of the parsonage of Belton may be given to William Fernes, with the reasons of the Corporation for refusing to give it. f. 112. But the lease is granted on Jan. 11 following. ff. 116, 117.

——, Oct. 10.—A parchment or paper book to be provided wherein shall be noted the principal points of the charters and compositions, to be entered in English, and also a terrier of all the lands belonging to the common chamber. f. 115.

* His books appear still to remain, although in very tattered and disordered condition, in the library of the Free Grammar School. For there are some (partly medical) which belonged to John Herd, M.D., prebendary of Lincoln, the historical writer, who died in 1588; and as he lived at Lincoln, and the person mentioned above had ceased to be usher some time before 1588, it may be concluded that the two are identical. I examined the collection at the request of the governors of the school, and found amongst the divinity some rare Roman Catholic controversial treatises, printed abroad, and also met with fragments of an early black-letter Robin Hood ballad, used as binder's fly-leaves in one small volume.

1579. 1579, Oct. 10.—Order that every householder, gentlemen excepted, attend upon the Mayor every Sunday to the sermon. f. 115.

1580, Jan. 11.—Twenty shillings granted to William Storr, a scholar at Oxford, towards the buying of books and for the furtherance of learning. f. 116. On March 24, 1582, he has a further grant of 40*s.* towards the buying of apparel and books, and 20*s.* yearly towards his maintenance being a poor scholar.* f. 128. *See* further under under Oct. 30, 1587.

——, May 7.—John Hyrd, clerk, now vicar of St. Mary's, to be usher of the free school. f. 117[b].

——, ——. The reversion of the Town Clerkship granted to Leonard Carr. *Ibid.*

——, Aug. 27.—The Dean and Chapter to be asked whether they be content to join the two schools together. f. 118[b].

——, Sept.—A great hoop or ring of gold which had been delivered by Henry Sapcote, esq., to the outgoing mayor, Martin Mayson, now delivered by him to his successor. f. 120.

——, Nov. 5.—Ten shillings given to Francis Emerson for that he was attendant the last summer at this city for training of soldiers. f. 121[b].

1581.—Act of Parliament, 23 Eliz. "for wools, for relief of this city of Lincoln, ... come to great necessity, impoverishment, ruin and decay." f. 125[b].

1582, Jan. 13.—Freemen who wear gentlemen's liveries to be disfranchised. f. 127[b].

A house at Stonebow to be assigned to the Town Clerk to dwell in. *Ibid.*

The usher's stipend raised from 4*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* *Ibid.*

——, July 21.—Heselwood the painter to make an end of painting the Hall, and to set up the Queen's arms and all the noblemen the earls' arms in metal, and, if he desire it, to have his freedom and 20*s.*, or if not, then to be recompensed for his pains. f. 129.

——, Sept. 1.—Provision ordered of leather buckets and of hooks, the city having been heretofore divers times in great peril of fire. *Ibid.*

——, Dec. 22.—Order for conference with the Dean and Chapter upon certain articles proposed for the union of the schools. f. 132.

1583, Aug. 12.—Twenty marks lent to Mr. Temple, the schoolmaster, for three years. f. 134[b].

Five marks given to the vicar of Hemswell for the building of a new house to be joined to the old vicarage house. *Ibid.*

——, Dec. 22.—Articles for the union of the schools to be drawn up by learned counsel of both parties. f. 137.

——, ——. A virtuous and learned preacher to be provided as shortly as may be, to teach the inhabitants the word of God, and to visit and give good counsel to the sick as need shall serve; to have for his stipend 20*l.*, and to be appointed by the Mayor, Recorder, aldermen and sheriffs. f. 137[b].

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* He matriculated at Corpus Christi College 28 Nov. 1581 (A. Clark's *Register of the Univ. of Oxf.*, Vol. II., Part II., 1887, p. 112), B.A., 9 July 1584; M.A., 23 May 1588. (*Ib.* Part III., p. 124.)

1583, Dec. 22.—All orders, &c. made at any Common Council to be drawn in paper and read openly at the next Council before they be entered, that if anything be mistaken it may be reformed before it be entered in the Council book. f. 137[b]. 1583

1584, Jan. 18.—The indentures of agreement about the schools to be sealed. f. 138.

——, Feb. 26.—A house of easement to be made at the Friars for the scholars. f. 140.

——, ——. Three shillings and fourpence allowed monthly for the bringing up of a bastard child whose father and mother are dead. *Ibid.*

——, ——. A legacy of 40*l.* from John Wilson for the poor. *Ibid.*

——, Apr. 4.—Mayors no longer to be charged with the venison feast, which is from henceforth to be laid down, and the rent-fish given by the fishers to be had by the mayors towards their housekeeping. f. 140[b].

——, ——. Mr. Jermyns to be occupied in preaching upon Sunday afternoons and upon Wednesdays in the forenoon, to teach the people their duties towards God and the Queen's Majesty, and to have yearly 20*l.* *Ibid.*

——, ——. Ordered that one half of all the people in every house above 12 years of age, being not sick or lawfully hindered, be at the beginning of every sermon every Sunday in the morning, and one from every house at the beginning of every sermon in the afternoon of every Sunday and festival day, and likewise on every Wednesday, upon pain of 20*d.* on Sundays and 12*d.* on other days. f. 141.

——, ——. All tradesmen to have their shop doors and windows closed all the day-time on Sundays, except they have need to open their shop doors for their own passage in and out of their houses, upon pain of 3*s.* 4*d.*; and except that it shall be lawful for every butcher upon any Sunday out of Lent, and every fishmonger on every Sunday in Lent from 5 o'cl. a.m. until the market bell ring, and from 1 to 3 if there be no sermon at that time, to keep open his shop-doors to sell victual, but at no other time in the day except to innholders upon strangers' sudden coming; and except also that any mercer, draper, or other artificer may serve any stranger passing through the city as a stranger with any wares. *Ibid.*

——, June 18.—Alderman Hodshone to be disfranchised if within a month he do not so alter the course of his sinkers that no filth of his swine and other corruption shall come into the river or common stream. f. 142. Similar order with regard to a dyer, and others. *Ibid.*

——, July 30.—Further order to Ald. Hodshone, beer-brewer, with regard to the filth of his brewing as well as of his swine, and also to the dyer. f. 142[b].

——, Aug. 3.—A lease granted of St. Laurence's church and steeple. f. 143.

The freedom of the city granted at the request of Lord Willoughby of Parham, to secure his good-will, to Robert Perkins, his servant or tailor. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. Jermyns continued as preacher of the city. *Ibia.*

1585, Jan. 16.—No present above the value of 20*s.* to be given to any nobleman or man of worship except by consent of the mayor and

1585. majority of aldermen, nor under that value to any one except the mayor and four of his brethren consent. f. 147.

1585, April 17.—The order about Ald. Hodshone's sinkers made on Aug. 3 (July 30? *no order entered on the former day*) to be clearly void being "partly mistaken." f. 148[b].

——, Oct. 23.—Copy of a severe letter from the Privy Council dated at Richmond, Oct. 18. "Whereas after your first contempt made in the election of your mayor,* contrary to the direction of our letters written unto you, and the good advice given you by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln to make choice of a man able in discretion to govern that city and well affected in religion, you have sithens added to the first a second contempt savouring of more wilfulness, in electing to the places of justices of the peace within the said city for this year the four persons that were the chief ringleaders in the disorder of the choice of the mayor, and were here by hus (*sic*) † to your knowledge punished for the same, whereat we do not a little marvel," two of them, Dawson and Emonson, who are held to be specially unfit, are hereby sequestered from those places, and order given to elect two others. This order is consequently obeyed. f. 152.

——, Dec. 11.—A frieze coat of the value of 4*s.* allowed yearly to "lame Robyns." f. 153.

1586, Jan. 15.—Mr. Jermyns the preacher having left the city, his stipend is granted to the Dean of the Cathedral Church, so long as it shall please his worship to take pains therein. f. 153[b].

——, ——. Forty shillings bestowed upon the poor people of the city for a charitable benevolence. *Ibid.*

——, April 18.—Certain persons to be sent up to the Privy Council to answer interrogatories concerning the supplication lately delivered by the Common Council against Mr. Rushworth. f. 154[b].

——, May 9.—The Archbishop of Canterbury to have the nomination of a preacher for the city. f. 155.

——, ——. Thomas Yates, a scholar a Cambridge, to have 40*s.* yearly for three years towards his maintenance at learning. *Ibid.*

——, May 30.—The house next to the prison called the Kitchens to be made a prison for apprentices and persons committing small offences. f. 155[b].

——, ——. Articles exhibited against two newly-elected aldermen, Laythorpe and Dobson. Laythorpe was illegally elected; is of an incontinent life and hath been fined in penance and hath not paid, "a great disworship to the city to have such an alderman"; he has unjustly caused suits about the cattle on the commons, &c.; he is officer to the sheriffs of the shire and clerk of the county, and there fully occupied; he is at this day impeached of forgery in the Star Chamber. Dobson hath left the city, and hath said that he is not of ability to keep house there. Both are in consequence displaced from the aldermanship. ff. 155[b], 156.

——, Sept. 14.—At the election of mayor two letters from the Privy Council were read respecting the displacing of the aforesaid aldermen,

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* Henry Blowe had been elected mayor by 108 voices to 79, 38, and 27 given for others.

† This spelling is universally used by the Town Clerk at the time.

with regard to which "gentlemen" were appointed to come for enquiry and also for appeasing contentions in the city, and requiring that Laythorpe and Dobson should be allowed to be in the calendar for election of mayor; but the mayor and three others refused to allow it, as being not aldermen at that time, whereupon five others refused to take part in the eloction. f. 157[b]. 1586.

1586, Oct. 5.—The grant of the reversion of the town-clerkship to Leonard Carr, made May 7, 1580, repealed, because he has maintained a faction in the city, and taken part in a slanderous bill supplicatory to the Privy Council against Henry Blowe, late mayor. f. 159[b]. (*See under* 1589.)

Richard Parkyns appointed clerk, in the place of Mr. Bunche, deceased. *Ibid.*

——, Oct. 11.—A letter sent to the Lord Chancellor informing him that before his letter came in favour of L. Carr, the place had been given to another. f. 160.

——, Nov. 2, 3.—Thomas Winterburne deprived (but not unanimously) of his places of justice of peace (to which he had been appointed against his own will) and alderman, for tearing in pieces, in great fury and madness, some examinations which he had signed. f. 160[a, b]. [It is possible that Winterburne was a Roman Catholic, as he had at first "most wilfully and stubbornly" refused to take the oaths incident to the office of a justice.]

——, Dec. 31.—Not more than one couple to be henceforth taken into any house by the inhabitants of the city, and no persons to be admitted to dwell in the city but such as the mayor and the most of his brethren shall allow. f. 161[b].

——, ——. The constables to report every fortnight what foreigners or strangers have come to inhabit. *Ibid.*

1587, March 3.—Thomas Emonson disfranchised for spoil and waste by cutting down trees on land leased to him. f. 164. Proceedings against others. f. 165. Emonson to be restored on paying a fine. f. 171[b].

——, May 20.—Appointment of persons to visit all the several divisions of the city, it having been in the last summer visited with the sickness of the plague very grievously, and there being now some great and manifest presumptions of some dregs and offscourings thereof yet remaining. f. 165[b].

——, Sept. 12.—Mr. Silvester, curate of St. Bennet's, appointed vicar of Belton, with a stipend of 16*l*. f. 167[b].

The inventory of plate handed on to the incoming mayor is increased this year by a case of knives and a staff of "brasell" tipped with silver. This mahogany staff is not mentioned in subsequent inventories, but is still preserved amongst the civic insignia. It measures 28½ inches. f. 170.

——, Oct. 30.—Thomas Kendall disfranchised for certain lewd speeches against the Bishop and Dean. f. 170[b].

"He said it was never a good world since the spirituality must have the choosing of the mayor . . . . The Bishop hath nothing to do with the choosing, and that if either he or the Dean did come into the hall they were as good not, and if that they were cast out of the hall window they know the worst of it . . . . that it was a shame for Mr. Dean to deal as he did . . . . . at his first coming he preached upon good will and for nothing, and now he selleth his sermons," etc.

1587 1587, Oct. 30.—*5l.* allowed to William Storr, a scholar at Oxford, towards his proceeding bachelor [master: *see note under* 1580] next Lent, in consideration that he do not hereafter challenge any more exhibition of the city. f. 171.

1588, March 21.—Copy of a letter from Sir Francis Walsingham, dated from the Court, Jan. 1, desiring that Laythorpe's name may be subjected to the city for re-election as an alderman, on the grounds of his wisdom and understanding in the affairs of the world (being a most fit man for those good parts it hath pleased God to endow him withal for the government of the city), that the manner of proceeding against him was hard, and the matters objected most weakly and slenderly proved; but if he be not re-elected, then he should surcease from seeking further restitution. An election for two aldermen is now held, and 24 and 19 voices are given for Will. Gosse and John Becke against 5 given for Christopher Laythorpe and John Rodthorne. f. 172a, b.

——, July 9.—Stones given out of the Friers to two persons. f. 173b, and again, f. 186.

——, ——. Leonard Carr admitted to the office of Town-clerk, in accordance with a letter from Lord Chancellor Christopher Hatton, dated at London, March 11, stating that he ought to enjoy the office according to the grant formerly made, there having been no just cause for its revocation, and that he is found to be honest and of good behaviour, and very willing to perform his best service with that duty that shall become him. f. 174.

Carr is also admitted clerk of the staple in accordance with a writ from the Queen, in which it is said that Parkins is not qualified for the office because he has not lands or tenements in the city. *Ibid.*

——, July 29.—The seal of the statutes merchant to be cut, according to Act of Parliament. f. 174.

——, Aug. 10.—The Friars never to be let for a term of years. f. 175b.

——, Sept. 23.—Extract from the indenture of Sir Thomas White's benefaction to the city, dated July 1, 1566, with an election of four persons to receive loans of 25*l.* each, in accordance with the same. ff. 176b–178.

——, ——. Mr. Sele, M.A.* to have the curacy of Belton, in pursuance of letters from the Bishop of Lincoln showing that for his learning and godly policy in governing he is a sufficient and meet man, of which sufficiency the Bishop can better judge than this house can. f. 178b.

——, ——. Robert Cooke, blacksmith, to pull down two chimneys of mud which he hath built in a thatched barn, to the harbouring of many beggars and danger of fire, or else to be disfranchised. *Ibid.*

In the mayor's inventory of plate this year the three cups become "five silver tuns," and "a pair of wood knives to take up a table withal" is added, the other knives being "to cut meat." f. 180. This description is repeated in subsequent years.

——, Oct. 5. The Bishop to be applied to, to confirm the union of the two schools. f. 180b.

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* Probably John Seele, of Magd. Hall, Oxf., M.A., in 1578.

1588, Oct. 5.—The reversion of the Recordership (on death or departure of Mr. Anton) granted to Mr. William Ellis on the application of L. Chanc. Hatton, and "for avoiding of many displeasures" that might arise should the office become suddenly void; with a copy of a letter of thanks thereupon from Hatton, dated from London, 26 Nov. f. 180b. 1588.

——, Dec. 12.—If the Dean and Chapter will give Mr. Plumtre, the usher of the School 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly for life, this house will give him 5*l.* yearly and the benefit of a freeman, and so he be discharged from teaching any longer, because he is old and doth no good upon the children. f. 182.

——, ——. The fairest great free-stones in the Friars to be piled and laid up in the vaults under the school. *Ibid.*

——, ——. A thousand "kidds" (faggots) to be bought for the poor this Christmas according to the true meaning of Mr. John Wilson's gift. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The blind boy of Townend to have a coat given him. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Freemen who allow dogs to go unmuzzled to be disfranchised if they refuse to pay the fine. f. 182b.

1589, Feb. 6.—The Monks' Leas to be walled if sufficient stone can be digged there for the purpose. f. 183.

——, Oct. 20. Every householder in Bar-gate, Bail-gate, East-gate and Newport (impotent and labourers only excepted) every night when the moon shineth not between All Hallows day and Candlemas, from 6 to 9 at night to set over their doors or windows a lantern with a candlelight in it, on pain of 4*d.* f. 190.

1590, Jan. 19.—At the suit of the waits it is ordered that no musicians except the waits do hereafter play at any marriages, unless such musicians give to the waits 2*s.* for every marriage they play at. f. 191b.

——, Feb. 16. Whereas Mr. Barnes, our preacher that is to be, is offered 40*l.* stipend and his diet at the mayor's table, but desires also to have his meat and drink in his chamber for himself and his man, a convenient lodging, and the bringing hither of his books and implements, all at the city's charge, which things this house cannot well condescend unto because of the great charge it is at every year, yet because of the great desire the citizens have of his coming through the report of his great learning and his fitness otherwise, it is agreed he shall have 40*l.*, a chamber, and the fetching of his books and implements, with his meat at the mayor's table until the common chamber is better able to contribute to the charge of his diet. f. 192.

——, May 22.—Mr. Walwoodde elected usher. f. 193b.

——, Sept. 5.—Mr. Walkwoodde (*sic*) to have a gown-cloth only this year, in consideration of the stipend given to the late usher. f. 194b.

——, ——. No serving-man or retainer to any one to be elected to any office in the city. f. 195.

——, ——. No freeman under the degree of sheriff shall procure, work for, or entreat any man to give his voice to any to be elected to any office. f. 195b.

1591. In the inventory this year the knives to cut meat are omitted, and a basket to carry the plate and a carpet to lay on a form in the Minster where the Mayor and his brethren sit are added. f. 197^{b}. This list is continued afterwards.

1591, July 31.—A committee appointed to confer with Mr. Grene of Boston, who has offered to set 400 poor people of Lincoln on work for five years at wool, if the city will find him a convenient house and lend him 300*l.* freely for the five years. f. 200.

——, ——. Mr. Barnes elected preacher with a stipend of 20*l.* (*sic*). f. 201.

1592, Sept. 5.—The best learned counsel in the law that can be gotten in London to be consulted, with Mr. Recorder, about the statute merchant seal, for confirming or reforming it, or purchasing a new grant. f. 207.

1593, Feb. 5.—Charles Dymock made a freeman at the request of his nephew Sir Edward Dymock, knt., with a view to his election as one of the burgesses of the city, he having always showed himself very courteous to the citizens, and promising to attempt in Parliament anything that may be beneficial to this corporation, and, further, that he will not put the city to any charge for burgess-money. f. 211.

——, March 29.—Mr. Tonge, the late mayor, "disjusticied and also disaldred" for refusing to bring in his accounts, and for having gone away with sums of money remaining in his hands. f. 212. To be sued, f. 217.

——, Sept. 22.—40*l.* left for the poor of St. Peter's parish in Eastgate by Lady Rooper. f. 214^{b}.

——, ——. The old brazen weights to be sold, being not according to the standard and doing no good. *Ibid.*

1594, Apr. 20.—A list of all the inhabitants in the towns of Waddington, Bramston, Canwick, with their assessment (or "bustage") for taxes. ff. 219^{b}, 20^{b}.

——, July 26.—A table of "wyned" wood to be made and set up at the Guildhall, with the laws that are made, that the freemen may know what they are bound to. f. 221^{b}.

1595, Jan. 17.—A "wyned" table to be made, with a green carpet of seven quarters broad-cloth, to stand before the mayor at sermon times in the body of the Minster, to lay the sword, hat, and mace upon (and a velvet cushion, f. 236^{b}); and also a new hat to be made for the sword-bearer of crimson velvet, with the band and tassels and other furniture thereunto belonging. f. 226.

——, ——. A new mace to be made, greater and fairer than the mace that now is, and the sum of 39*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* and the old mace to be allowed towards it; the new mace of silver gilt weighing 78½ ounces cometh at 10*s.* 2*d.* an ounce to 39*l.* 15*s.*, the graving of four arms in four "ammell" [enamel?] plates to 40*s.*, a case for it 15*s.*, the carrier for bringing it down 5*s.*; summa, 42*l.* 5*s.*; received for the silver of the old mace being 10 ounces, three-quarters and a half at 4*s.* 8*d.*, 50*s.* 6*d.* So there remains due to the goldsmith, 39*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* f. 226^{b}.

——, ——. The two greatest and least swords to be repaired in scabbards, hilts, "pumbles" (pommels), handles and "cheapes." *Ibid.*

1595, Jan. 17.—A new stall of "wyned" wainscot to be set up in St. Peter's church for the mayor and aldermen. f. 226[b]. 1595.

——, ——. Edmund Shuttleworth to be town-clerk on the death of Leonard Carr. f. 227.

1597, Feb. 12.—The mayor's charges for a scaffold at the horse race to be allowed. f. 237[b].

——, June 16.—Mr. Thomas Luddington,* the preacher to the city, to have 30*l.* per an., and his diet at the mayor's table. f. 239.

——, Sept. 7.—The burgesses for the city to be treated with to get the letters patent granted with the new seal for statutes merchant confirmed by Act of Parliament. f. 240[b].

1598, Feb. 16.—St. John's churchyard and steeple to be sold. f. 243[b].

——, Sept. 2.—The corn market to be kept in St. John's churchyard. f. 245[b].

——, ——. The Friars, notwithstanding a former order to the contrary, leased for 21 years. f. 246.

——, Nov. 23.—No clothes to be washed at the conduits. f. 249[b].

1599, March 28.—The waits or musicians to have 100*s.* yearly towards the increase of their wages, and also to have four coats yearly at Christmas over and besides the coats they have now, and their chains and cognizances to be repaired. f. 250.

——, June 11.—Edward Hollingworth and Thomas Bishoppe, two freemen, to be disfranchised for ever unless at the next Common Council they appear and purge themselves of evil and untrue reports which they have spread abroad of Mr. Major that now is [Abraham Metcalfe], as the makers of this "law" [resolution], or some of them, have lately heard and known. f. 250[b].

Vol. V.—A folio volume, extending from Oct. 1599 to Aug. 15, 1638; consisting according to a foliation at the foot of the pages of 280 leaves; but of these, two are now wanting at the beginning, fol. 65, and ff. 268–270, (besides only a fragment remaining of 279); and fol. 78 has been misplaced in binding between ff. 66, 67. Two leaves bear the number 5, and one separate un-numbered leaf is fastened in at f. 275[b]. Leaves are wanting at the end, but to what extent cannot be known.

On a fly-leaf at the beginning is this memorandum: "24 Maii, 1605. The three great boules with ther covers were sent to London to be repared wherein ther was eny necessetie of repare, the which were wayed, and conteined in weight fourescore and twoo ounces." (See under date of Dec. 20, 1604, *infra.*)

[1600?]—The lease that Leonard Carre has of St. Laurence's Church and the shops there made up from seven years to twenty-one, at the old rent, he giving a pottle of sack and sugar for a fine, in consideration of his defending at his own proper costs and charges a suit brought against the city for the same, and for his having by his labour and costs in the "Checker Chamber" [Exchequer] taken out copies of the books which will for ever hereafter maintain the city's title, and also hath given the same books to the Common Chamber. f. 3[b].

* Thomas Lodington, M.A., afterwards B.D., a Lincolnshire man, and Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, from 1582 to 1605 (Andr. Clark, *Reg. of Univ. of Oxf.*, Vol. II., Part III., p. 106).

1600. 1600, May 3.—Forasmuch as John Dawson was disfranchised for abuse offered to Mr. Mason, Mr. Wharton and Mr. Radferm, but now has made suit to them for his freedom, they having all become lovers and friends; and forasmuch also as Rolland Lillie was disfranchised for abuse offered to Mr. Metcalf, but they have now grown unto a peace and an unity; it is agreed that they be re-enfranchised, upon condition that they carry themselves lovingly, decently and dutifully unto the aldermen of this city. f. 4.

No minister or preacher who shall have any benefice or charge out of the city of Lincoln to be elected preacher of the city, but such a man to be chosen as shall have no benefice, and lie and be continually amongst the citizens. *Ibid.*

——, Sept. 27.—Mr. John Smith elected preacher of the city by 8 voices, over Mr. Luddington who had 7. f. $5^{a, b}$.

[It may be worth mentioning, once for all, the various officers who, besides the mayor and sheriffs, were at this period annually elected. Four chamberlains, one for each ward; four constables, one for each ward; the common clerk; three mayor's officers, viz. the sword-bearer ("lator gladii"), the mace-sergeant ("serviens ad clavam") and the bellman ("campanæ pulsator"); the sheriffs' clerk; three sheriffs' officers; four keepers of the keys of the chest; three keepers of the keys of the pyx; four searchers of tanned leather; two searchers for curried leather; and searchers for not coming to sermons, viz. the churchwardens of every parish, who were to present the offenders every Monday to the mayor. Besides these, there were overseers of the commons, and a pinder, elected at the yearly view of frankpledge.]

The mayor's inventory of plate, &c.: one bason and ewer of silver parcel gilt, three goblets of silver with a cover to them, all double gilt, five silver tuns with a cover to them, parcel gilt, and therein ["all in a nest," 1601] one silver salt all gilt, one case of knives of wood to take up the table withal, one carpet, and one wicker basket to carry the plate in. f. 7.

——, Oct. 21.—Mr. Francis Billingham admitted a freeman, he, having made suit to the mayor and his brethren to be one of the burgesses for the city at the next Parliament, wherewith they are well pleased. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. John Smith, the preacher of the city, to have a yearly stipend of 40*l.* paid quarterly, with 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* yearly towards house-rent and leave to keep three kine upon the commons. *Ibid.*

1601, Feb. 28.—Mr. Malton, vicar of Belton, to have a gown-cloth, or 40*s.* price, given him, so that it be no precedent. f. 7^{b}.

——, ——. The sheriffs to provide livery-cloaks yearly for their bailiffs of 30*s.* price. *Ibid.*

——, March 9.—None hereafter to be admitted freemen under the sum of 10*l.*; all previous laws and uses concerning the same repealed and annulled, f. 8.

——, ——. Every alderman coming to sermons, common councils, &c., without his gown, to forfeit 6*s.* 8*d.*; every sheriff and one that hath been sheriff, 5*s.*; every chamberlain and one that hath been chamberlain, 4*s.*; and the mayor to issue warrants for the immediate levying of the forfeitures. *Ibid.*

——, Sept. 26.—Whereas one Hugh Atwell, parson of St. Tewe [St. Ewe] in Cornwall, and in time past parson of Calverley in Devonshire, hath given 3*l.* to the use of the poor for ever, to keep them on

work, the stock to remain for ever, and the gain to be disposed of by the mayor to such as he shall think fit for the true disposition thereof, it is ordered that the said money be disposed yearly according to the true meaning of the giver. f. 10. 1601.

1601, Oct. 5.—Two persons elected assistants to the Mayor for the pricing of victuals according to the statute, because the Mayor, Edward Dynnys, is himself a victualler. f. 11.

1602, Feb. 20.—The schoolmaster and usher to have, each of them, 40*s.* for a gown, so as the same be no precedent. f. 12^{b}.

——, Aug. 18.--For reformation of great abuses in the sheriffs' officers, ordered that if any officer commit any offence contrary to his oath he be immediately displaced. f. 13^{b}.

——, ——. Because the city is very evil spoken of for taking toll excessively, which by a former law should have been reformed and yet nothing has been done therein, a [committee]* is appointed to set down the toll that shall be taken for everything in the city tofore tolled, that the same may be engrossed and set up in a table. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Stones granted out of the Friars to Mr. Ellis. *Ibid.*

——, ——. It is provided that no question shall arise in consequence of the late absence of Abraham Newhouse from the city about his right to enjoy his freedom, his chief departure being but to make money to pay his debts. *Ibid.*

——, [Sept. 2 ?]—A grant to be engrossed and sealed assuring for life the stipend heretofore paid to Mr. John Smith, the preacher long since elected to preach every Sunday in the afternoon and every Wednesday in the forenoon; provided always that he be not absent from the execution of his place above twenty-one days in a year, except it be through sickness or else suits and troubles in law, and during absence that he find another man to supply his place at his own charge. f. 14.

——, Oct. 13. [On this date several orders are made in a Common Council, which show the existence of great dissensions in the Corporation. They are as follows :—]

Two leases granted by the mayor and three others on 2 Sept. annulled because "impunged" and gainsaid by the majority of the aldermen. f. 17^{b}.

Item, for as much as many men unskilful and not franchest men of this city have heretofore been chosen sheriffs by the magistrates to whom such election did belong, and such magistrates partly by that means have preferred their will and not regarded the common good of this city, contrary to ancient usage heretofore; and, by reason that such unskilful persons have been called to that office of Sheriff without bearing the office of Chamberlain, divers franchest men of our city of good wealth and ability have forborne to take upon them the place of Chamberlain, and that place of late time hath been supplied otherwise than of ancient time hath been used heretofore: For reformation whereof, and that these places may hereafter be furnished with the best sort of people of this city eligible thereunto, it is enacted and agreed by the mayor, sheriffs, citizens and commonalty of this city that from henceforth no magistrate or mayor of this city shall elect or choose any person or persons to be sheriffs of this city except such person so to be

* This word is not used in this place but is employed in this way on the preceding page of the Register.

1602. elected have formerly been chamberlain, any usage, custom, or liberty to the contrary notwithstanding, upon pain of one hundred marks. f. 18.

Item, whereas by an act of Common Council of 21 Oct. [1600] it was agreed that Mr. John Smith then elected preacher of this city should have [the stipend specified above under that date]; now forasmuch as the said John Smith hath approved himself a factious man in this city by personal preaching, and that untruly, against divers men of good place, and for that he is not licensed to preach, and is at the present inhibited by the L. Bishop of this diocese from the execution of his ministry and preaching; the said mayor, sheriffs [*etc.*] enact and agree that the said John Smith shall be no longer preacher of this city, and that [all acts granting him his stipend *etc.*] be utterly repealed and revoked. *Ibid.*

1602, Oct. 13.—Twenty shillings yearly allowed for three years to Edward Rockadine, son of Edw. Rockadine deceased, if he so long remain a student at the university of Cambridge, for his better proceeding in learning. f. 18[b].

Mr. Luddington elected preacher of the city by nine voices, over Mr. Dalbie for whom none were given. *Ibid.*

——, Dec. 13.—Agreed, that whereas there is likely to grow many suits prosecuted by the late preacher of this city John Smith against the Mayor [*etc.*] concerning one yearly annuity which he pretendeth to be granted to him; and whereas also there are certain articles exhibited unto the L. Bishop of this diocese against him in the names of John Becke now mayor and Leo Hollingworth, with consent of this Common Council, for his enormous doctrine and undue teaching of matters of religion, and personal preaching of men of this city; all such sums of money as shall be disbursed about the defence of such suits and the prosecuting of the said articles shall be repaid to the mayor out of the revenues of the corporation. f. 19.

Mr. Browne, parson of Washingborough, to be recompensed for the pains he hath already taken and is to take by preaching for the Corporation. *Ibid.*

——, Dec. 20.—[Ordered, by 6 to 3 in the inner house, and 21 to 7 in the outer house, that those members of the corporation who made those grants on Sept. 2 against the will of the majority which have been repealed, shall set down under their hands in the Council book that they did so without the consent of the others of the inner house, and that those others against whose will it was done also set down their names], that the same may be here recorded for a testimony thereof for evermore, upon pain of every one refusing to forfeit forty shillings. [The names of the majority are subscribed, but none of the others; a blank is left, marked in the margin, "spaces to put to ther hands."] f. 20.

1603, Jan. 25.—Persons worth 200*l.* in lands or goods to pay 20*l.* for the freedom of the city. f. 21.

——, March 14.—Leave given to the Recorder, in regard of some business he hath about London and other places this year, to nominate a deputy. f. 21[b].

——, ——. Forasmuch as every one of those [of the minority] who were enjoined to subscribe the act of Dec. 20 has refused so to do, ordered that if they do not subscribe at the next Council, they shall each incur a further penalty of forty shillings in addition to the forty shillings already forfeited. f. 22.

1603, April 18.—An act "to disjustice and disalder Mr. Edw. Dynnys," (carried unanimously by 30 voices) because he, when mayor, on 2 Sept. last broke open the chest containing the corporation seal, and affixed the seal to divers grants, against the will of the greater part of the aldermen, and thereby violated the ancient and laudable custom, and hath prejudiced and hindered the common profit, and hath falsely broken his oaths, and by his disordered proceedings hath caused great disquietness, expenses, many factions and manifold troubles, and hath obstinately refused to come to Council, and also did wrongfully take and enclose in his own grounds parcel of the waste and grounds of the corporation, without any law or order so to do. ff. 22ᵇ–23ᵇ. 1603.

——, July 5.—The order for attendance on the mayor at sermons extended to other places besides the Minster, and the penalties for non-attendance increased, for aldermen to one shilling, sheriffs eightpence, chamberlains sixpence, and every other freeman fourpence. f. 25.

——, ——. Mr. William Gosse "disaldred" (by 5 voices to 2 in the inner house and 26 to 3 in the outer house) for the offences mentioned in the act for "disaldering" E. Dynnys, and also because he refused to come to the Council and to attend the first proclaiming of King James, and at the second proclamation of his majesty's undoubted right and title did, during the most part of the said proclamation, sit in the presence of the mayor and his brethren and divers other gentlemen of good sort and quality, they all except the said Gosse behaving themselves joyful and dutiful and with great reverence, but the said Gosse then keeping his hat on his head, and not showing that duty nor that willing acceptance of his majesty's due right and authority then proclaimed as a good subject ought, to the evil example of others then present; and also on Apr. 18 did utterly refuse to stay at a Council or to give his advice touching some law and ordinances then to be made. f. 25ᵇ.

——, July 8.—Mr. Dalby elected preacher by twelve voices, over Mr. Luddington, for whom none were given; to have a yearly stipend of 30*l.* for preaching on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons, and further, to visit and give counsel to the sick persons of this city as occasion shall require. f. 26.

——, Aug. 27.—The lease of the tenement on Bower Hill which had been granted to the carpenters for the hall for that fraternity forfeited by them, because they had suffered the building to come to great ruin and decay. f. 26ᵇ. (Re-granted to trustees for the fraternity on Sept. 4. f. 28.)

1604, Jan. 7.—Mr. Dalby's stipend as preacher encreased to 40*l.* f. 30.

——, Sept. 26.—Mr. Dalby to have his leases of Mary Hall and the bank at the Bargate, in which he hath 15 and 13 years to come, made in his name for 30 years, on condition that if at any time the said tenement shall be converted to a hospital he shall have one year's warning to surrender his lease. f. 34.

——, ——. Alexander Lawson to have his freedom for 6*l.*, in consideration that there is none of his occupation (*which is not specified*) in the city, and that he is unmarried, and hath no children to charge the town withal, and will not marry. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. William Gosse is restored to his aldermanship by arbitration of the Mayor and the Recorder, he having procured from the King the referring of his cause to Lord Sheffield, who had employed

1604. his honourable travail to end all variances in the city, and was purposed to come thither about the end of this month for a final hearing, but had consented to the deciding of the matter by the Mayor and Recorder. They declare that the causes for which Gosse was displaced were not wholly untrue or frivolous, and that the Register of the city shows that sundry aldermen had been displaced for less causes; but that, considering how convenient and commendable it is to reduce peace and unity, and having particularly invited divers persons to whom he had given cause of just offence to condescend to Christian amity and concord, they award, firstly, that Gosse attending this Council shall desire those whom he had offended to accept his unfeigned desire to live in peace with them and all others; and then, that he be re-elected as a member of the outward house at first, but they pray that at Christmas next, upon his good carriage in the mean time, he be accepted as a brother of the inward house, not as of mere right of restitution, but as by privilege and grace, upon assured trust of brotherly conformity in all honest courses; not minding by this favour to give any encouragement to expect the like upon like accidents. [Upon this follows a declaration, signed by Gosse with his mark, of his desire to live peaceably with every one; and the record of his election by 23 voices over two given for another.] ff. 34^{b}–35.

1604, Oct. 20.—Ordered that the mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs shall every year ride the two "fares parly" upon horses and foot-cloths, and that they be provided before Midsummer next, and sooner if the King's majesty come sooner to Lincoln; the mayor's and his brethren's clothes to be very fair and "side," (*sic*) and the sheriffs' very comely and beseeming their places. f. 37.

——, ——. Whereas Mr. Dynnys, late alderman, hath given 60*l.* to the corporation, the profit thereof to be bestowed upon the poor, 15*l.* are given to four persons severally for five years they giving good security for the principal and also for the "rent" at 10 per cent. f. 37.

——, Dec. 20.—The great mace and the three great silver bowls with the cover to be sent to London to be repaired. f. 37^{b}.

——, ——. Agreed that no citizen or inhabitant dwelling betwixt Danstall lock and the High Bridge shall pour any soap-suds, chamberlye, suds of "metting" cloths, or any other stinking water, into the chennels or streets, but carry and cast the same into back-lanes and other places where the casting of it may not any way annoy the street-dwellers or any passengers, upon pain of ten shillings for every offence. f. 38.

1605, March 2.—Whereas there be many privileges contained in the charter of this city which are therein meant to pass to this corporation but in law lack words to convey the same, it is agreed that the charter be renewed, and the defects thereof drawn into form of law.

——, Sept. 5.—Whereas Mr. Dynnys, late alderman and twice mayor, did for the affection he did bear to this city, give 20*l.* to this corporation, and since his death his wife hath made suit that the money might be turned into two silver bowls to the use of this corporation, and whereas her suit is granted, and the money is bestowed upon two gilt bowls with a cover, agreed that the mayor be discharged of the 20*l.* and be allowed the overplus money which he paid for the bowls. f. 39^{b}.

——, ——. No dust to be cast or swept within six yards of either of the conduits, on pain of 6*s.* 8*d.* f. 40.

1605, Sept. 26.—Mr. Langley admitted to the curateship of Belton, in succession to Mr. Molton, with a stipend of 20*l.*, in regard of letters from Lord Sheffield and also for that he comes from the Bishop with the fitting allowances and approbations. f. 41[b]. 1605.

——, Sept. 28.—The provision for preventing danger by "skathe fyre" being not sufficient, it is agreed that each parish shall provide one clump of iron by Christmas next. f. 42[b].

1606, March 8.—None to be common porters of fuel or other burdens but such as are appointed by the Mayor and his brethren ; and articles and orders to be made for their wages and good behaviour. f. 45. A further order on Feb. 15, 1608. f. 56.

——, ——. Mr. Wilson's four pounds for fuel for the poor to be laid out yearly before midsummer, and the fuel to be housed up for distribution at Christmas according to Mr. Wilson's true meaning. *Ibid.*

——, ——. The schoolmaster and usher to have gowns given them, the cost of each not to pass 40*s.* f. 45[b].

1607, July 28.—Mr. Mather to be curate of Hemswell, so long as it shall be thought fit and convenient by this corporation. f. 51[b].

——, Sept. 26.—The charter to be pleaded for discharge of sums claimed by the Exchequer from the Sheriffs, which are therein granted to the corporation. f. 53[b].

——, Oct. 22.—Whereas the apprentices and other servants of the citizens and inhabitants do weekly carry the sweepings of their houses and doors into back-lanes and not to the places appointed for that purpose, whereby many highways are straitened, and corruption of the air is procured, and annoyances to the passengers that way given and daily increased, it is agreed that the bellman shall keep under him a man or two to play the scavengers of this city, and with carts or carriages to carry away the dust and sweepings of the houses and streets from the doors twice in the week, viz. on Wednesday and Saturday, to such places as the Mayor shall appoint, and for his pains and charges to be paid as the bellman and housekeeper can agree, and if they cannot agree then the Mayor to compound the matter between them; and upon complaint from any churchwarden or overseer of any heap of dust being left at any man's or woman's door who has compounded for the carriage, the bellman shall forfeit fourpence. f. 55[b].

——, ——. The penalties for opening shops on Sundays being found "too little for so great an offence," they are increased to 3*s.* 4*d.* for the first offence, 6*s.* 8*d.* for the second, 10*s.* for the third, and disfranchisement for the fourth; provided always that butchers, alebrewers and beerbrewers, and bakers, may sell before 7 a.m. in summer and 8 a.m. in winter, and that butchers may also sell after evening prayer. *Ibid.*

——, ——. No musicians or musician of this city or country elsewhere shall at any time hereafter use any music upon instruments either at any marriage or at or in any inn, alehouse or victualling house, or any other place within this city or the suburbs, but only those musicians that wear the city's livery, without the leave and liking of the city's musicians, the assize time only excepted. f. 56.

1608, Feb. 15.—An agreement made upon "much talk" with the millers, and with their consent, that no miller take more than one quarter of one peck of corn for every stock of corn, grinding fetching and carrying, under penalty of five marks; and if any miller put any sand

1608. into any meal, or use any other indirect course whatsoever to make the meal ground heavier or seem to be greater, that every such offender shall forfeit 10*l.* for every offence and suffer three months' imprisonment without bail or mainprize. f. 56[b].

1608, July 24.—Mr. Dalby's place as preacher declared vacant from Lammas next because he hath gotten a great living in the shire out of the city, and dwelleth upon it. f. 57.

1609, March 6.—Whereas Mr. Knysmith is purposed to build at his house, and to set his building forward into the street about the space of one yard, it is agreed that his building be set out at the appointment and bounding of Mr. Ald. Mason, Mr. Hollingworth and Mr. Morcrofte. f. 61.

——, Sept. 12.—Lord Sheffield and the Bishop of Lincoln having moved and entreated the Corporation that Mr. Dalby may have his full stipend for the past year, and may continue as preacher unto Candlemas next and then depart, it is agreed that these entreaties be granted. f. 61[b].

——, ——. "Mr. Wharton disaldred." Whereas it pleased the King's Majesty to declare his pleasure to his subjects for the repressing of the multitude of maltsters, and that but a competent number should be allowed in all places within his Majesty's kingdoms, which said command came unto the Mayor and aldermen of this city, whereupon they appointed a meeting at the Guildhall, there to take order to repress the superfluous number of them, and calling before them the said maltsters, one William Wharton, alderman, then and yet a common maltster, came also and earnestly required them that he might still use making of malt, and there affirmed before the Mayor and aldermen then present that unless they would admit him still to be a maltster he could not live, for that he was a very poor man, and could not make by all means he had 10*l.* yearly for his maintenance and supportation: Now because the said William Wharton hath openly manifested his ability and substance to be very poor, weak, and feeble, and hitherto for the space of three years now last past hath basely lived and behaved himself in this city, continually haunting alehouses, drinking there inordinately, and by means of such his resort many tradesmen of this city have been drawn into his company, and to spend their substance and their time unthriftly, which might better have been bestowed in sustaining of such poor men's families their wives and children; and forasmuch also as he doth still daily continue his disordered course of life, spending almost every day the one half thereof in disordered drinking in the alehouse, playing there at tables, cards, and such unlawful games, with people of mean estate and condition, and by his continual haunting and resorting unto alehouses hath in this late time of dearth and scarceness encouraged some of the said alehouse keepers to which he usually resorteth to brew, sell and utter, strong ale of less quantity for money than by his Majesty's laws and late proclamations in that behalf made they ought, in contempt of his Majesty's said laws and proclamations; and for that he also doth many times distemper himself with excessive drinking of strong ale in common alehouses, insomuch as he is altogether unfit for magistracy and government whereunto his said place of alderman doth require him; and because his said course of life is or may be some touch to the rest of his brethren, and may tend to scandal them if he should continue in his place amongst them; and because also some of his offences are against his Majesty's most godly and wholesome laws, made and established as well for restraining of inordinate haunting and keeping

alehouses as also for the repressing of the most odious sin of drunkenness ; 1609.
which tends to the overthrow and subversion of all civil government in this city, if persons of such disordered life should continue there in places of magistracy and rule, and would encourage others of light behaviour by his continuance and place in this city to follow his said base and odious course of life if he should escape unpunished ; and forasmuch as he hath openly confessed that his substance estate and ability is so poor feeble and weak as he is no way able to support and maintain the office and place of an alderman in this city in the judgment of his brethren and of the whole common council of this city here assembled ; for these and many other faults, offences, and misdemeanours whereof the said William Wharton may justly be censured, it is now agreed enacted and established, by the mayor, sheriffs, citizens, and commonalty of this city, and by the whole common council here assembled, that the said William Wharton now is and from henceforth for ever hereafter shall stand and be disaldred to all intents and purposes, and that he shall not any longer be, use, bear, or have the place or office of an alderman of this city, any former election of him or any other matter or thing whatsoever concerning him to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. ff. 61[b]–2.

In the margin this note is added :—" This is one of the lawes mentioned in the Acte agreed on the xxix[th] of February a° R. Jacobi X°, 1611 in Mr. Dicconson['s] maralty, for Mr. William Wharton's disaldring, which is to bee defaced, for that the prosecutor thereof doth not nor cannot prove what he undertooke to prove and objected against the said Wharton."

1609, Sept. 12—" Mr. Beck disaldred." Whereas John Becke, citizen and alderman, hath encroached upon the king's high street near unto the High Bridge, in such place as the same street there was very narrow and strait, and thereby hath not only straitened the highway, but also hath thereby defaced the shop of Thomas Emmonson, citizen and draper, and for that offence hath been presented at a court late held, and nevertheless, although he hath been moved to redress the same, hath obstinately refused, and as yet the same remains unreformed ; and because also the said John Becke hath of long time haunted and used alehouses and common tippling-houses, sorting himself with men of base state and mean condition, and in the same ale-houses and tippling-houses doth daily spend the most part of his time [*etc., continuing in nearly the same terms as in the preceding act against Wharton* ——] the said John Becke, for these and many other his misdemeanours and offences committed and done, is clearly and absolutely disaldered. f. 62.

To this a like marginal note is attached :—" This is the Act for Mr. John Beck's disaldering which is to bee defaced for the unjustnes thereof, by a lawe mentioned hereafter [*etc., as above*] for want of proofe, etc."

——, Sept. 28.—Agreed that the city's Charter be showed and pleaded, if need be, in the Crown office for deodands and the common place [*pleas?*] and for outlaws' goods. f. 66.

——, Oct. 9.—The law against procuring of voices at elections of mayors, justices and sheriffs repealed as against all persons other than such as shall give or promise any reward for obtaining of voices ; the old penalty of 100*s.* against such to stand and be of force. f. 68.

———, ———. Whereas the Lords of the Privy Council have directed letters to the mayor and his brethren about the disaldering of Mr. Wharton and Mr. Beck, with a commandment to certify the causes and

1609. reasons of the proceedings against them, agreed that as the answer will be somewhat chargeable the charges shall be borne by the Corporation. f. 68.

1609, Dec. 12.—Mr. Somerscales to be curate at Belton, in succession to Mr. Langley. f. 68[b].

——, ——. A confirmation of the charter to be obtained from the King. *Ibid.*

1610, March 25.—No common victualler hereafter to be admitted but such as shall be free of the city. f. 69.

——, ——. The mayor to arrange for supply of the preacher's place pending a new election. f. 69[b].

——, June 7.—Thomas Dawson shall be at liberty to set posts and rails at his door in the street one yard and a half from his porch, paying for them and for his porch yearly to the city two pence. f. 70[b].

——, Sept. 25.—Mr. Wylby elected preacher by ten voices over four for Mr. Hawstead. To have a stipend of 35*l.* yearly for preaching on Sunday afternoons and Tuesday mornings, and other convenient times when special occasion shall serve, as either by the King's appointment or at the entreating of the mayor; this stipend to continue until some parsonage, curateship, or other living, within this city may be gotten for him towards his maintenance, and then his stipend to be mitigated for the ease of the common chamber as the mayor and the corporation shall think fit, having regard unto a sufficient contribution for Mr. Wilby's living. f. 72[a], [b].

——, ——. Dr. Barber to have and enjoy the standing of his rails and pales at the door of his dwelling-house in Eastgate in such sort as they now be, paying yearly to the city twopence. f. 72[b].

——, ——. The chancel of Belton church to be paved with bricks, and 5*s.* yearly to be paid to John Man to keep the chancel repaired with lead and glass. *Ibid.*

——, Oct. 1.—Mr. Wharton and Mr. Beck restored to their places as aldermen, and those who had been substituted removed, in pursuance of two writs from the court called the Crown Office. f. 74[b].

——, Dec. 15.—Mr. Wilby's stipend to be raised to 40*l.*, the same that former preachers had. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Whereas there be divers persons shut up in their houses for fear of the sickness, and other poor within this city, and have not wherewithal to relieve themselves, therefore every person of ability and worth to be contributory to that charge shall pay such sums as the mayor and justices shall set upon them. *Ibid.*

1611, March 21.—Whereas much jars and discord hath many times heretofore risen in this city about the office of Steward or Clerk of the Courts called the Mayor's and Sheriff's Courts, and the same office is from year to year passed on from one to another, and sometimes to such as seldom or never attend the same, and other sometimes to such as cannot execute the same, whereby the sheriffs are many times brought in danger, and the clerks not knowing the customs do much hazard the breach of the same, and through the often change of that officer the country much complains, not knowing where to fetch their warrants of arrest, which hath not heretofore been so used, neither is the like officer so changed in any the like corporation to this; it is therefore enacted [*by* 21 *voices to* 10] that Stephen Mason, to whom the now officer is willing to surrender the office, be established in the same . . . . .

and be not put from it otherwise than by the Common Council of this city upon just cause . . . . so as he do not practise as an attorney in the said mayor's and sheriff's courts. f. 75. 1611.

1611, March 21.—No other persons to be admitted as attorneys to practise in any courts of the city but those now admitted, viz. Mr. Richard Smith, Mr. Thomas Enderby, Mr. Robert Smith, the town-clerk for the time being, and Mr. Thomas Newcombe; future attorneys to be admitted by the Common Council, and the number never to exceed four. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Whereas there hath been some controversy between the Mayor and his brethren and Mr. Edmond Shutleworth about the office of Town Clerk, which controversy was heard and ended on Thursday the last day of Feb. before Sir Peter Warburton, knt., and Sir Thomas Foster, knt., the justices of assize at Lincoln, it is now agreed that the said Edmond Shutleworth shall be accepted and established in the same office, in such sort as Mr. Carr his predecessor held it. f. 75^{b}.

——, March 23.—Whereas there hath been some questioning about the stone stays lately built at Mr. John Beck's house on the High Bridge, and a leet jury have held it to be an encroachment [*see under Sept.* 12, 1609, *supra*], it is now ordered that the same stays shall be permitted to stand as they now be, so that the said John Beck and his heirs and assigns pay such yearly rent to this corporation for the same as shall be thought fit by the view and judgment of the aldermen. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Mr. Fereday of the county of Lincoln to be spoken with by the counsel of the city concerning the finding of offices within the city, because he hath sent word that he will either sit with Mr. Mayor in that service or else he will call him into the Court of Wards. f. 76.

——, ——. Richard Somerby, chief constable of the East Ward, having not only neglected to execute the mayor's warrant for levying a cessment in the ward for the relief of the people visited with the plague, but having said to the mayor's face that he might be ashamed to make out such a warrant, and that it was more than the mayor could justify, and that he would not execute the same do what he would, he shall therefore humble himself to the mayor and confess his contempt and fault and pay a fine of 40*s.*, or else be disfranchised for ever. *Ibid.*

——, June 8.—Ferdinando Gibbyns and [*blank*] Lockyngton, the city's musicians, to have two liveries. f. 77.

——, ——. The freemen that have not paid toward the relief of those affected with the plague to be disfranchised. *Ibid.*

1612, Feb. 29.—Whereas Mr. William Wharton and Mr. John Becke, two of the aldermen of this city, were heretofore in the mayoralty of Mr. Geoffrey Wilson, now deceased, upon accusation of some offences then and after objected against them, to which they were never admitted to answer, displaced by act of Common Council from their rooms of aldermen and others placed in the same, who notwithstanding, in the mayoralty of Mr. Knifesmith, by the King's writ out of his Majesty's Bench and an act of Common Council were placed in their said rooms and the others again displaced, as by all the same acts may appear; yet because the crimes objected against the said Mr. Wharton and Mr. Beck are still apparent in the book of Common Council, they the said Mr. Wharton and Mr. Beck have desired that the truth of the crimes therein imputed to them might be examined, and either they to be cleared of

1612. the said imputations or to receive condign punishment if the same or any of them shall be proved true against them; which request of theirs being reasonable the mayor that now is hath called divers times as well on the said Geoffrey Wilson in his lifetime as also on others who were chief instruments in their displacing, offering them time place and space to make proof of the said objections; but the said Mr. Wilson in his lifetime as well before the reverend father in God William now Bishop of Lincoln as before the mayor of this city affirmed that their displacing proceeded not from him, nor of any matter which he could object against them, but by the procurement of others, who yet will none of them stand to maintain the said imputations or any of them. It is therefore now judged, ordered and decreed that all the said crimes imputations and offences objected against them at the time of their disaldering, and since for the maintenance thereof, are false malicious and slanderous, contrived and informed untruly against them, without any ground or just occasion; and therefore, the more to shield them from such imputations, and to bring into oblivion such undue proceedings in this city, it is further ordered and decreed that the said acts of Common Council against the said Mr. Wharton and Mr. Beck shall be so defaced and blotted out of the book of Common Council that hereafter they shall never be to be understood or read; and for avoiding of all such undue proceedings against men of such place in this city, it is further ordered and agreed that no alderman which now is or hereafter shall be of this city shall at any time hereafter be displaced from the room of an alderman, or from any place privilege or preeminence belonging thereto, before the accusations shall be delivered to him in writing, and he have twenty days' space to answer thereto, and be admitted to his defence before the whole Common Council. f. 81.

1612, Feb. 29.—Whereas this city hath not had for these many years past any help or advice of George Anton, esq., Recorder there, either in keeping their sessions of the peace or otherwise in their courts or affairs, though they have had many great occasions to stand in need thereof and to crave the same, and yet have borne with his not using the said place and office, though the fees of the same have been continually paid to him, and thereby have been enforced to be very troublesome to divers others learned in the law to no small charge of this city; now, for that the said Mr. Anton is clear removed from this city, and hath left to himself no place of dwelling or residence therein, neither is likely to return thither again, it is ordered and agreed that the said Mr. George Anton shall be no more nor longer Recorder of this city; . . . .; and for that William Ellys, esq., counsellor at the law, a man born in our city, hath taken much pains for the mayor, magistrates and officers of this city in the absence of their Recorder, and hath been willing upon every request to advise and assist them, and for that he hath a former grant of the Recordership upon the death, forfeiture or relinquishment of Mr. Anton, it is ordered that he shall from henceforth be and have the office of Recorder, to be executed in his own person, unless special and urgent occasion of the King's service hinder him at some time or times, and then by some sufficient deputy. f. 81b.

——, ——. Agreed that each of the five city's waits have a livery; that the three chains and badges be repaired, and one new badge and two chains be made; and also that the common seal for letters be newly engraven. f. 82.

——, ——. None hereafter shall be made free of this city unless he be of some good trade, and will be able in substance to use his trade. *Ibid.*

1612, Feb. 29.—Whereas William Marrett hath gone at Mr. Mayor's request to Peterborough, and brought with him one to set the poor on work to knit and spin, agreed that their charges be paid. f. 82b. 1612.

——, March 9.—No lease to be granted without reserving, besides the yearly money-rent, rent pigeons, fat turkeys, capons, wardons or other fruit, as shall seem good to the mayor and his brethren, and every lessee shall give on the granting the lease one bucket to the corporation. f. 83.

——, ——. Twelve articles of complaint objected against Edmund Shutleworth, the mayor's clerk, for neglect of his duties, absence from Lincoln, carelessness in keeping the rolls of bonds of the statute-merchant and the entries of the acts of the Council, neglecting to attend the mayor except when summoned, and then sometimes sending a young man his servant, who writes very badly and is very young and ignorant, seldom attending on the sword to the Minster sermons nor going into the quire with them, and refusing to issue warrants until first paid a fee. Having been openly examined upon these articles, and being unable to deny most of them to be true, and the rest, and some others not set down, being proved against him, therefore he is now displaced out of the offices of town-clerk, mayor's clerk, or clerk of the statutes. ff. 83b--84b.

——, Apr. 18.—Stephen Mason appointed town-clerk or mayor's clerk, and clerk of the statutes. f. 85.

——, June 23.—Ordered that the acts enacted on 29 Feb. 1611(-12) which have not been entered by Mr. Shutleworth, who left two leaves' space with loose papers containing the acts, be entered by Mr. Mason, and the leases which were left not enrolled be enrolled in the book for that purpose. f. 86. [All the entries from Feb. 29 are in a very clear and legible hand, which is thus shown to be Mason's; the marginal note affixed to the act displacing Wharton and Beck is also in his hand. Some previous entries are in a hand which may well be that of Shutleworth's young man who wrote "very badly."]

——, Aug. 15.—The husbandmen and farmers of the land in the fields of Lincoln having complained that they do in every harvest sustain great loss and damage by disordered gleaners, the following agreement was made between the mayor and his brethren and the farmers on Aug. 1. 1. That no children, servants or people of anyone who hath been chamberlain or is cessed to the King's subsidy be permitted to glean. 2. That no one come to glean but betwixt 8 o'cl. a.m. and 5 p.m. 3. That no one glean on any land before the corn be led from the same, nor upon any land where the corn is standing on either side, but shall begin at a furlong where the most corn is cut down, and take the same furlong before them. 4. That no one put any gleanings into sack, poke, or sheet, but make the same up into handfuls and bundles, as hath been anciently done and used; and whosoever shall offend contrary to any of these articles shall not only have their gleanings taken from them but also be imprisoned at the mayor's pleasure. 5. Also, to the end that the poor may have and take the gleanings of the fields as fully as hath in ancient time been used, and as in charity and by the ancient custom of this Christian kingdom they ought to have, it is therefore expressly ordered and agreed, that no swine, sheep, or other cattle shall be put upon any land or willingly permitted to come until the same be gleaned by the poor; and that every person willingly offending against the same shall not only have his sheep, swine, or cattle

1612. impounded but shall also suffer imprisonment at the mayor's pleasure. f. 86b.

1612, Sept. 2.—Mr. Thomas Wilby's* stipend of 40*l.* as preacher granted to him for life, he continuing to hold the office. f. 87b.

——, ——. Thirteen articles objected against Mr. Leon Hollingworth, alderman, ten of which are noted in the margin as being confessed by him. They are for refusing to attend the mayor when summoned for business, which in consequence could not be done; for bringing false charges against the mayor; for having been the means of procuring the displacing of Wharton and Beck; for imprisoning Mr. Gosse, an ancient alderman, during his mayoralty without the consent of his brethren, and threatening another; for using vile and despiteful speeches which cannot for modesty be recited, and disturbing meetings with outrageous railings; for misappropriating wood to himself; and for refusing to pay taxes for the relief of the poor. He is ordered openly to confess that he has wronged various persons, to pay for the wood, and to pay a fine of 10*l.*, or else to be disaldered and disjusticed. He refuses to do anything, and therefore finally, after Michaelmas, is displaced. ff. 88–90.

——, Sept. 28.—Agreed that whereas there is 50*s.* left of the 4*l.* allowed for the charge of fetching Sir Thomas White's money received by the Corporation this last Bartholomew tide, the said Sir T. White's picture shall be procured to be set out in some comely scutcheon at Mr. Mayor's discretion, to be hung up in this house as a memorial of that worthy man; and if it cost more than 50*s.*, the overplus shall be allowed. f. 92.

——. Any person carrying himself tumultuously and intemperately at any court or meeting, or otherwise than mildly, temperately, peaceably, and with respectance to such as he shall justly have occasion to speak to, shall be disfranchised *ipso facto*. f. 92b.

——, Oct. 12.—The opinion of the judges of the circuit to be taken about the appointment of the sheriff's clerk. f. 95b.

——, ——. William Broxolme, esq., disfranchised, for animating and countenancing divers lewd persons committing sundry riots in order to disinherit the city of their commons, and for refusing to pay the taxations for the cattle he keepeth on the commons, and for endeavouring to draw the Holmes and other grounds out of the city into the county. f. 93.

——, ——. Robert Townson, tailor, disfranchised for being an associate and animator to the said W. Broxolme. f. 93b.

——, ——. Various persons fined 20*s.*, or else to be disfranchised, for a riot at a court leet for the election of justices. f. 93.

——, ——. The city's right to the chancel-seats in the church of Belton assigned to the farmer of the parsonage. f. 93b.

1613, Jan. 21.—Mr. Leon Hollingworth re-accepted as an alderman, as he hath reconciled himself to all the brethren and promiseth to make restitution for the wood and ashes, and submitteth himself as to the fine, which is to be remitted on his paying 26*s.* 8*d.* for the wood. f. 97.

——, Feb. 18.—Whereas Mr. Leon Hollingworth . . . . upon his submission, with his promise of love and peaceable carriage, and his

* Probably Thomas Wilby, of University College, Oxford, a Yorkshireman, M.A. 1609. (A. Clarke's *Reg. of Univ. of Oxf.* II. ii. 264, iii. 265.)

entreaty that the writ which out of the King's Bench he had sued forth for his restoring to his place might not be returned but by Mr. Mayor kept in his hand as void and of none effect, and that they would be pleased to censure him themselves, was on Jan. 21 restored to his said place, which by words to Mr. Mayor and Mr. Swift he did kindly accept, and thanked Mr. Mayor for his kindness; and whereas also the said Mr. Hollingworth, against his promise and his own entreaty of love and peace, not only this day rejected the acceptance of the said place, but refused the same, saying to their faces he made no such reckoning of an aldermanship as to accept it upon any terms or conditions, neither would he pay for the wood at all, but hath also since Jan. 21 gone about to procure a new writ, and under hand to procure the mayor or corporation to be fined for not returning the former writ, which Mr. Mayor would have had returned but that Hollingworth himself in the audience of all the brethren did request that it might not be returned, and so took the same into his own custody; it is now therefore agreed that he stand disaldered as he was before, and that the said writs shall be returned at the city's cost, with the causes of his disaldering or of his doings and carriage since, as the counsel the city shall use therein shall think fit. f. 97[b]. 1612.

1612, Feb. 18.—The charge of mending the mace to be paid. f. 98[b].

——, ——. License given to Robert Warde, brickmaker, to build a work-house and to dig earth for making brick and tile, and to have 10*l.* lent him freely for a year, and all the "tuffall" to be built at the city's cost. f. 98[b]. [The commencement of a copy of articles of agreement follows, for the completion of which a page and a half were left blank; the bricks and tiles were only to be sold to the corporation, the dean and chapter, and the freemen.]

——, Apr. 17.—Whereas there hath been divers controversies and variances between Mr. Leon Hollingworth, lately disaldered, and divers of the aldermen, the said Mr. Hollingworth is very sorry for his being cause of the said variances, and promiseth hereafter to live a brotherly and peaceable life, and now desireth the love and favours of Mr. Mayor and his brethren, and that they will be pleased to accept him of their number again; therefore the said mayor, *etc.*, are content freely to pass by all former occasions of breach, and do from henceforth accept of him as a brother and alderman in his former place. f. 101.

——, ——. Agreed that the writ Mr. Shutleworth hath sued forth out of the King's Bench against this corporation shall be presently sent up to be returned according to the substance of the return now drawn in paper (and signed) to Mr. Rich. Smyth, the city's attorney of record, by him with advice for the city to be put into court. *Ibid.*

——, May 5.—Whereas there is a gathering made in the city towards the building of a scaffold for seats in the church of St. Peter at Arches, agreed that if the gathering will not extend to finish the said building it shall be finished at the cost of the corporation. f. 102.

——, May 17.—Agreed that whereas there is an old goblet-cover of silver broken in the chest, and two of the ordinary tuns cracked and of little use, they shall be made into a comely can fit for service, to go from mayor to mayor as is usual, and what they want in weight to make it strong and serviceable to be made up at the cost of the corporation. f. 102[b].

——, ——. The brickmaker to have his freedom so long as he continues making brick for the city. *Ibid.*

1612. 1612, May 17.—Richard Tonge, now newlyd elivered out of prison, and out of clothes and in great poverty, to have 40*s.* given him. f. 102[b].

——, May 19.—The evidences for the title of the city to the commons called the Holmes to be sent up to the counsel of the city for answer to a suit brought to prove them to be in the county of Lincoln. f. 103.

——, ——. A taxation agreed on for the cost of procuring a renewing of the charter with what speed may well be. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Further order for the return of the writ in Mr. Shuttleworth's case. f. 103[b].

——, ——. Thomas Hamond to be free of the city so long as he continues to set the poor on work. f. 104.

——, ——. Agreed that John Woodward, hollow-ware man, who is reported to be skilful about conduits, and the city being in want of such a workman, be for his trial set on work about the conduit, and if his workmanship be allowed to be good he shall have his freedom for 100*s.*; and Will. Dickonson, wheelwright, shall also have his freedom for the same sum. f. 104.

——, Aug. 14.—Mr. Henry Kendall, sheriff, fined for contemptuously and obstinately refusing to attend meetings when summoned. f. 104[b]. And on Sept. 4 for continued obstinacy he is further fined 30*l.*, to be disfranchised if the fine be not paid by Oct. 1. f. 106.

——, Sept. 6.—Aldermen who do not pay their cessment for the renewing of the charter to be disaldered, and other citizens to be rendered incapable of any preferment in the city. f. 107.

——, Sept. 15.—Petition from the outer house to the inner house for the repeal of a law made in Mr. Hollingworth's last mayoralty respecting leases of the parsonages, with a proposal that reversion of the leases of Belton and Hemswell, the rents whereof are very easy, shall be given to such citizens as will double the rents and give such fines as shall be thought fit, such fines to be employed for the renewing of the charter, that the cessment of the citizens to that end may be eased. f. 108.

Further request from 21 petitioners that when laws are hereafter made in the inner house they may be written on paper and delivered to the outer house, that the latter may have some reasonable time to consider of the same and not be compelled as heretofore to grant laws so suddenly and unadvisedly. f. 108[b].

——, Oct. 11.—The above petition for the repeal of the law about leases of the parsonages granted, and a lease in reversion of Belton for 31 years at an annual rent of 200*l.* with 60*l.* fine granted to Ald. John Beck, and a like lease of Hemswell with an increase of 30*l.* over the old rent and a fine of 40*l.* granted to Ald. Hollingworth. f. 112[b]. (This latter lease was, with Hollingworth's consent, voided on Jan. 14, 1617. f. 137.)

——, Nov. 7.—Agreed that there shall be a house of correction made, according to the statute, of the house called the Freers under the Free School, and that malt querns and such other provision as shall be fit to set poor on work shall be provided. f. 113[b].

1614, Apr. 14.—Henry Kendall comes and acknowledges himself sorry for the unkind suit he has lately commenced against the Corporation, and wholly refers the matters of difference on his part to the mayor and his brethren; and it is thereupon agreed that 17*l.* shall be

paid him for his allowance for housekeeping while sheriff, which had been forfeited, and that he be restored to his freedom. f. 114[a], [b]. 1614.

1614.—Agreement with Thomas Hamond the "gerseyman" about the repair of his house. f. 114[b].

——, May 14.—Decree of arbitration by Mr. Ellis, the Recorder, and Nicholas Cholmeley, esq. in the dispute with Mr. William Broxolme. The latter is to execute a deed withdrawing all his claim to the Holmes, and the city is then to restore his freedom, and to give him a lease of a small piece of ground. f. 115[b].

——, July 6.—A pump to be set up in St. Michael's parish. f. 116.

——, Oct.—In the inventory of plate there is now the "silver can with a cover all white" made out of one of the six tuns. f. 120.

1615, July 15.—Order respecting 20*l.* left by Mr. John Howe to the corporation to be let forth according to Sir T. White's will. f. 122.

The house under the Free School let for 11*s.* yearly rent to certain citizens who combine to buy wool and set the poor on work there. f. 122[b].

The townships of Canwick, Branston, Bracebridge and Waddington each to provide two iron hooks with chains and wooden staves "according to the facion of the hooks for skalefyers (*sic*) in the citie of Lincoln," and 12 leather buckets, to be kept in the several parish churches, for provision against fire, and the inhabitants to provide buckets to be kept in their houses. f. 123.

——, Sept. 23.—The sheriffs elect if they do not behave themselves well and courteously towards the mayor and aldermen, and be not agreeable and conformable, shall lose their allowances. f. 125.

——, Dec. 14.—A table and seats to be provided in the lower hall for the grand jurors at assizes and sessions. f. 128[b].

John Bracewell fined 3*s.* 4*d.* for charging the mayor and his brethren with swaggering dealing when they with mildness were executing their offices, to the use of the poor children at the spinning school. *Ibid.*

A marshal appointed to go daily from parish to parish, and to bring all wandering and begging persons to the house of correction and spinning school there to be set on work, and to have 12*d.* weekly for his pains. f. 129.

Brewers to be fined who "tiple" or sell by retail. *Ibid.*

1616, Feb. 4.—Mr. Thimolby Howdon to have 20*l.* yearly for preaching on Sunday afternoons. f. 129[b].

1617, Jan. 14.—A law enforcing the due paving of the streets by every inhabitant before his own door. f. 135[b].

——, ——. No foreign musicians to present their music for money or gain at any wedding or other meeting if the waits of the city shall be willing to play, unless it be the musicians of some nobleman to their own master only, at his house or lodging only, under pain of 2*s.* from every housekeeper receiving them and 5*s.* from the musicians to the use of the waits, who in case of default are empowered to sue for the same under the name of The Masters, fellows and company of waits of the city of Lincoln. f. 136[b].

——, ——. A present to be provided towards the King's Majesty's coming to this city if his intended progress hold. *Ibid.*

——, Feb. 25.—A sum not exceeding 40*l.* granted to the mayor towards his extraordinary charge of housekeeping at the King's coming to the city and towards the fees of the King's officers. f. 139.

1617. 1617, March 17.—It is agreed that Mr. Mayor [Robert Mason] and his brethren, Mr. Recorder, Mr. Sheriffs, the Town Clerk, and every man else which hath been sheriff of this city hereafter named, viz. Mr. Lawson, Mr. John Dawson, Mr. Burgh, Mr. Yates, Mr. Somerby, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Okley, Mr. Rob. Beck, Mr. Ricroft, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Anton, Mr. Cumberland, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Tho. Dawson, Mr. Whitby and Mr. Smith, shall every of them provide himself a horse and foot-cloth of black, with black bridles and all things else suitable and decent, against his Majesty's coming to the city; and shall also provide themselves apparel good and decent for men of their degrees and callings; and so attired and well provided shall all together, decently and in order, everyone observing his degree and keeping the same, meet his majesty at the outskirts of the county of this city or elsewhere. And that Mr. Mayor shall provide to attend upon himself two men, with either of them a livery cloak; and every alderman and every sheriff and town clerk aforesaid shall also have and provide to attend on him there a man in a livery cloak, well, decently, and in good order appointed. And that Mr. Mayor and his brethren shall be all in their scarlet gowns, and those which have been mayors in velvet tippets, as they use to wear; the sheriffs in gowns of purple in grain; the town clerk in a gown of some fine stuff, decently trimmed; and all others above-named which have been sheriffs to be in black gowns guarded with velvet or velvet lace, plain on the back, on the citizens' fashion; upon pain that everyone that shall make default shall forfeit lose and pay 10*l.* to the use of this corporation, and what other penalty this house shall think fit: [to be sued for in any courts.] f. 139[b].

Item, that no beer-brewer or other common seller of beer or ale . . . after the tenth day of April now next ensuing shall send any beer or ale in or upon any cart, carriage, or carts, with wheels shod with iron, upon pain of 5*s.* f. 140.

The manner of King James' first coming to Lincoln.

Memorandum, that his Majesty being to come to this city, the mace-bearer was sent to the Lord Chamberlain at Grantham for directions when, where, and in what manner, Mr. Mayor and the citizens should meet his Majesty, who returned answer that his Majesty was intended that night to rest at St. Caterin's, and the day following to come into the city, and that therefore the sheriffs with some number of citizens in gowns should meet his highness at the skirts of the county, and so the day following the mayor and his brethren with convenient company of citizens to meet him at the Bar gate, and then and not before to have some speech to his Majesty, for that his highness did not love long speeches. Whereupon, the 27th day of March 1617, a° XV. r. R. Jacobi, King James did come from Grantham to Lincoln. But the appointed place for meeting his highness at the skirts of the county was not observed, by reason his Majesty hunted along the heath and came not the highway. And so the sheriffs and citizens removed from that place, and they, with either of them a white staff in his hand, clad in cloth gowns of purple in grain, and on horseback with foot-cloths, together with all of note which had been sheriffs on horseback with foot cloths and black gowns all of the ancientest fashion, and all that had been chamberlains of note on horseback in their gowns of one fashion of violets' colour without foot-cloths, and divers other citizens in cloaks of like colour booted and spurred, on horseback, all which were in cloaks, with new javelins ["jaffelings"] in their hands fringed with red

and white, (being set in order by one of his Majesty's officers, who came before his Majesty's coming to that end) two and two in a rank, were appointed to stand in the highway near the Cross of the Cliff, where his Majesty could not miss of them, the sheriffs being hindmost. And when his Majesty drew near them, the two sheriffs only lighted, and way being made for them they both went to his Majesty in his caroch, and, kneeling, the elder sheriff delivered his staff first, and the King delivered it him again, and the other sheriff did the like; and so both took horse again, and rid, both bare-headed, before the caroch. The high sheriff of the county and his men by the King's officers then were put by, and the other citizens in their degrees before the sheriffs rid, all bare-headed, before his Majesty, conducting and attending him to his lodging at St. Catherin's. On the next day his Majesty coming to the Bar gate in his caroch, he there lighted, and took his horse-caparison of state, being most rich, where the mayor, the recorder, and his brethren, the sheriffs, and other citizens aforenamed, attended him on horseback and foot-cloths, the mayor and aldermen in their scarlet robes, with every of them a man to attend him on foot in civil liveries, muchwhat all alike. His Majesty came towards the mayor and recorder, who were both lighted on foot hard under the houses on the west side of the street within the Bar gate, and the mayor readily on his knee kneeling tendered the sword to deliver it unto his Majesty. But his Majesty put the sword back with the back of his hand, [and] with all grace refused to take it from the mayor. Then the King's Majesty asked the mayor if he had any speech to deliver, who answered "No, but this gentleman, who is our Recorder, hath one," and the King willed "Say on." So the Recorder, kneeling all the time on his knees, uttered his speech, which his Majesty heard willingly, and with great commendations; which ended, the mayor delivered his Majesty a goodly "inamelled" and gilt silver cup of a full ell ["elne"] in height, in weight a hundred marks in silver or thereabouts, which the King took with great delight and content, and, moving his hat, thanked them, and delivered it to one of his footmen to carry openly in his hand all the way to the Minster, and thence conveyed it to his lodging. After the cup delivered, the mayor mounted with the sword in his hand, and, placed between the two sergeants at mace, did bear the sword before the King to the Minster, and the Earl of Rutland, being Lieutenant of the country, did bear the king's sword, all the said aldermen, sheriffs, and other citizens in their ranks, youngest first, did ride two and two together up the High Street through the Bale unto the Minster gates at the west end thereof, where the King kneeled down on a cushion ["quishon"] which was there prepared, and prayed a short prayer, and so under a canopy which was held over him by 4 or 5 prebends in surplices went into the quire, the mayor still bearing the sword, aldermen and other citizens in their gowns, going before him into the quire, and there sat by the Bishop's "pue" hanged about with rich hangings in a chair all prayer time, Mr. Dean saying prayers, and the mayor holding up sword before him all prayer time. 1617.

After prayers done his Majesty went about the church to see the ancient monuments thereof, and so went into the chapter-house to see it, and from thence to his caroch. and therein went towards his lodging at St. Caterin's down Pottergate head, Mr. Mayor bearing the sword until he took caroch as well through Bale Close as church (*sic*). When he took caroch his own sword and all ornaments was put up. The mayor, aldermen and citizens in their ranks as aforesaid rid all before the caroch to attend his Majesty on horseback to St. Caterin's house, where his Majesty at the door put off his hat and dismissed them.

1617. On Sunday, being the 30th of March, his Majesty went to the Minster in his caroch, and at the west door met him three bishops and the dean and chapter, who made a short speech. Mr. Mayor and his brethren, sheriffs, and other citizens, in their gowns did there (as was directed by the Lord Chamberlain and his officers, from whom they had directions for all their carriage and doings) go in their degrees before his Majesty, by two and two in a rank, until the foremost came at the quire-door, then they did divide their ranks, and one stood still of one side, and another turned and stood on the other, and so made a fair lane and way for his Majesty, to keep him from the press of the people. And for order sake first the town clerk, then the two sheriffs, and after them the aldermen in their rank by twos went along (betwixt the citizens in the way they made) before his Majesty into the quire, where the Bishop of Lincoln preached. After which sermon ended, the King healed to the number of fifty persons of the King's evil. When he had so done, the citizens went before him in order as aforesaid unto the Bishop's palace, where he dined, and after dinner his Majesty went in his caroch in private unto St. Catherin's again.

On Tuesday, being the 1st of April, Mr. Ealand, one of the masters in the church, preached before his Majesty in his chamber of presence, where after sermon his Majesty did heal liii of the King's evil.

On Wednesday, being the 2nd of April, his Majesty did come in his caroch to the sign of the George by the Stonebow to see a cocking there, where he appointed four cocks to be put on the pit together, which made his Majesty very merry. And from thence he went to the Spread Eagle to see a prize played there by a fencer of the city and a servant to some attendant in the Court who made the challenge, where the fencer and scholars of the city had the better, on which his Majesty called for his porter, who called for the sword and buckler, and gave and received a broken pate, and others had hurts. The King then entered his caroch at the inn gate, where the mayor and aldermen did crave answer to the petition they delivered at the King's coming from the cocking, to whom the King turning gave his hand to Mr. Mayor and Mr. Hollingworth, alderman, who kissed the same, and so rid forewards to St. Katherin's.

On Thursday there was a great horse-race on the heath for a cup, where his Majesty was present, and stood on a scaffold the city had caused to be set up, and withal caused the race a quarter of a mile long to be railed and corded with ropes and stoops on both sides, whereby the people were kept out, and the horses which "ronned" were seen far.

On Friday there was a great hunting, and a race by the horses which rid the scent for a golden snaffle, and a race by three Irishmen and an Englishman, all which his Majesty did behold. The Englishman "roonne" the race.

On Saturday after dinner his Majesty went from St. Katherin's to Newark, at whose departure from St. Caterin's Mr. Mayor and his brethren did give attendance at his coming forth of the presence [-chamber], and when he took his caroch in the inner court at St. Caterin's he gave forth his hand to the mayor all the aldermen and the town clerk, who all kissed the same. Then he thanked them all, saying that if God lent him life he would see them oftener, and so took his caroch, and went forward that night to Newark, Mr. Sheriffs riding before him in his caroch in their gowns with their white staves and foot-cloths, and men with "jafflings," but no citizens, until the hither end of Bracebridge bridge, where they likewise took their leaves, and he moved his hat to them; and then the high sheriff and his men

received him at the farther end of the bridge beyond the water, and so conducted him on his journey. ff. 140–142.* 1617

1617, July 14.—John Galland's son now ready to go to Cambridge shall have 40*s. per an.* until he shall commence bachelor, or have a scholarship or other means to maintain him there. f. 143b.

1618, Jan. 8.—Mrs. Wilby the late lecturer's wife to have 5*l.* in regard of her great want and weak means, and a collection to be made of such persons as be charitably minded to bestow their further liberality. f. 149.

——, Feb. 1.—Forty shillings paid for four maces for the four serjeants. f. 150b.

——, June 6.—The mayor, with a man to attend on him, to ride to London to defend the city's right to the Escheator's office, which is called in question. f. 151b.

——, Oct. 17.—Whereas there is a pit digged for clay at the top of the hill at Cross of the Cliff, where the Cross stood which was the bounder between Bracebridge and the city, at the corner of the great close hedge on the right hand of the way which turneth to Waddington, viewed at every perambulation, and the Cross removed by some evil disposed persons, it is now agreed that the chamberlain of the south ward shall see that there be a bounder-stone set in the old place where the late Cross stood, and in no other place, to stand as a true bounder and memorial for ever. f. 154.

——, Dec. 3.—Alexander Amcots, esq., appointed deputy recorder, in the absence of Sir Will. Ellis, knt., with the reversion on Ellis' death, on the motion of Francis earl of Rutland, an especial well-willer and friend of this city. f. 159.

1619, Feb. 13.—Mr. Baldwin chosen to the place of vicar or curate of Belton, upon the now departure of the curate there; he shall have liberty to appoint the deacon there, so always as he do it with the consent of the mayor and his brethren, and put in bonds to repair and uphold the vicarage or curate house. f. 160.

——, ——. The great mace which is shaken and loosed to be amended. *Ibid.*

——, Aug. 30.—Thomas Dale, the beadle, for his extraordinary pains in proclaiming lantern and candle-light, and that he should take better pains for suppressing the extraordinary begging of the poor, to have 10*s.* yearly paid him more than now he hath. f. 161.

1620, Aug. 16.—No stranger or tradesman not being free of this city to set up any stall or sell any wares on the market days. f. 166.

——, ——. A table to be made of the stallage, picage, and other fees taken by the sheriffs. *Ibid.*

——, ——. All customs, compositions and writings to be looked up, old men examined, and the ancient stint and usage of the commons to be drawn into form, showed to the dean and chapter, and so set up, and that to that end some of the city do speak with the dean and chapter, that so all controversies and variances which hereafter thereabouts may arise may for ever be prevented. *Ibid.*

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* This account is printed in Ross's *Civitas Lincolnia*, 1870, pp. 73-79.

1620. 1620, Aug. 16.—All companies of tradesmen to seek up their laws and customs, and confer amongst themselves what particular sum every company will give towards the renewing of the charter of this city, and will yearly pay towards the fee-farm, that so the same companies may have their particular customs ratified and confirmed in the charter, for the strength of their customs and ease of the city. f. 166b.

——, ——. Whereas the city's revenues grow short, no payments, with certain exceptions, to be made until examined by the Council. f. 167.

——, ——. All books, bounders, customs, compositions, evidences writings, and records of this city in the custody of any citizen to be brought in. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Whereas by husbandmen or occupiers of husbandry within this city becoming common councillors and men of place in this city, many books, bounders, compositions, evidences and writings have been conveyed out of this city, it is hereby enacted for a law for ever, that no husbandman or other using husbandry within this city or suburbs thereof which is or shall be, shall be [" *not be*," MS.] admitted to be free of this city unless he have been free-born or served for the same; and if any such shall become free that he or they shall not be admitted to bear any office of degree or become common councillor so long as he shall use husbandry within the city or suburbs. *Ibid.*

——, Oct. 2—In the inventory of plate "a box and nest of gold weights" is added. f. 171b.

——, Oct. 9.—Fines for non-attendance on the mayor at sermons in the Minster increased. f. 172.

——, ——. Mr. Bartholmew to be summoned to appear at the next council to answer for himself unto such abuses and misdemeanours as he is accused of to have done and committed in the time of his shrievalty; and Mr. Okley, late mayor, is to be ready with his articles and proofs. *Ibid.*

1621, Jan. 20.—Robert Bartholmew sentenced to lose his allowance as sheriff for housekeeping and also to be fined 20*l.*, and to be disfranchised, for appointing a new crier contrary to the custom of the city, and forbidding the paying of market-dues to the old and lawful crier; for raging against the then mayor, Mr. Okley, when mildly entreated by him and the other sheriff to forbear to offer any such wrong, justling him on the bench, and willing him to get out of the house, threatening to fine the crier, &c.; for allowing country tradesmen, travelling pedlers, &c. to set up stalls; and also for braving and slandering the late mayor this day, in the hearing of himself and the aldermen, saying he could have no justice at his hand. ff. 173b–4b.

——, ——. Ordered that if any sheriff or bailiff, for favour or money, henceforward permit any prohibited tradesman to set up stalls and sell wares on the market days, as some of late years for their own private gain have done, he shall be fined 10*l.* f. 174b.

——. [Order for bearing the charges of the sheriffs in view of troubles that are threatened for the execution of this law, July 8, 1633. f. 255.]

——, Apr. 10.—Whereas Mr. Bartholmew, lately fined, hath surceased his suit, acknowledged his offence, and submitted himself to Mr. Okley, late mayor, it is agreed that the 8*l.* remainder of his allowance of 18*l.* be paid him, and that he be accepted to his enfranchisement. f. 176.

1621, Sept. 8.—Agreed that 50*l.* *per an.* be deducted for six years from the ordinary allowance of six successive mayors, in order to raise 300*l.* as the contribution of the city towards the scouring of the Foss, in pursuance of letters from the King for the viewing of the Foss. f. 176[b]. 1621.

——, Oct. 20.—The chequer in the Town-hall to be enlarged and made more handsome. f. 180[b].

——, ——. Whereas there hath been great contention and suit between Mr. Phipps and Mr. Walkwood, late the Free School Masters, about a promise of twenty nobles for Mr. Walkwood's good will to give over the school, it is now agreed for the ending of the controversy that the one half of the said money, viz. five marks, shall be paid to Mr. Phipps. *Ibid.*

1622, Apr. 30.—A recital of the old custom of the city for taking bonds from executors of wills on behalf of orphans, for the protection of orphans, with an order for the strict enforcement of the custom, in consequence of frequent wrongs by its violation. f. 182[b].

——, July 18.—6*s.* 8*d.* to be yearly paid to Gregory Stephenson for his life to provide three forms in the Minster for those who have borne office in the city to sit upon. f. 183[b].

——, Aug. 14.—Any alderman giving over his office because of inability, through decay in substance, to support the place, shall have 3*s.* 4*d.* weekly for his maintenance during the remainder of his life. f. 184.

1623, May 21.—The law made on Sept. 8 1621 for the deducting of 50*l.* from the mayor's allowance repealed, and that sum ordered to be paid to the late mayor. f. 190.

——, ——. Anyone who will build a warehouse for wool shall have a convenient spot leased to him in the Freres or sheepmarket, subject to the reversion of the building at the expiry of the lease to the corporation. f. 190[b].

——, ——. If any man will plant willows on the commons he shall have the profit of them for 31 years. *Ibid.*

1624, Apr. 22.—Whereas there be sundry children of poor inhabitants at the Free School who for want of books are much hindered in their learning, it is agreed that the mayor shall deliver to the now schoolmaster, Mr. Clarke, 20*s.*, to provide such books as he shall think most fit, so always as the same books be preserved as the city's books in the said school for ever. f. 196.

——, July 32.—No alderman to have above three leases, no one who hath been sheriff above two, and no other citizen above one, of houses or lands of the corporation at one time. f. 197.

——, Nov. 16.—Whereas the stock of money given to the city for loans to the poor hath been lessened by loss through the taking of slender security, and the use hath been so lessened by statute as that it will do little good amongst the many poor, and whereas Gregory Lawcock, a freeman, is contented, if he can have convenient stock, to take upon him to set all the poor of this city upon work to spin, knit stockings, weave garterings, make stuffs, and other manufactures of

1624. wools, and out of the gain to clothe the same poor, and to that end yearly to deliver to the mayor so much cloth as shall be worth (*-blank-*); it is agreed that the 60*l.* given by Mr. Dennys be called in, and upon sufficient securities be lent to the said Lawcock; that 20*l.* be freely given him to provide tools, bring workmen, and establish the manufactories, and that 10*l.* yearly be paid him towards the charge and loss in teaching young spinners; and that to provide this yearly payment, the 10*l.* allowed for the four sessions' and mayor's account dinners be abated out of the mayor's allowance. And from Easter every citizen and other inhabitant of ability shall wear at least one suit of apparel and one pair of stockings of such cloth or stuff as shall be made in the city. ff. 203[b].-4.

1624, Nov. 16.—The Town-hall and the partition in St. Peter's church betwixt the mayor's seat and the chancel shall be decently coloured. f. 204.

——, Nov. 29.—Hemswell parsonage not to be leased under double rent of that now paid. f. 204[b]. [The reversion to be granted to any freeman that will give the most by way of fine, Feb. 26, 1631. f. 245.]

——, Dec. 6.—Some coals to be allowed out of the common coal-house to the poor scholars at spinning-school, so it do not exceed one chalder all this winter. *Ibid.*

——, ——. For prevention of clamours and inordinate assembling of beggars, it is agreed that a man shall be appointed to inhibit all beggars from that abuse, and with a strong locked iron box to take the daily charitable devotion of strangers and others, and to have for his pains therein the tenth part of what shall be so gotten, the keys and money to be left every night with the first sheriff, to be disposed of by the mayor and his brethren. f. 205.

1625, Apr. 27.—Attendance enjoined at the publishing of proclamations from the King and at perambulations. f. 206[b].

——, May 16.—A wool-market to be proclaimed to be held in the Friers, where the sheep-market now is. f. 207[b].

——, May 21.—Leave given to William Parker to try his skill for a year or two in serving the city with tile and brick, but Richard Warde not therefore to be released from his agreement to serve with brick at 13*s.* 4*d.* the thousand, and tile at 20*s.* the thousand, good stuff, so long as he shall live. f. 208. [Margaret Warde, widow of Rich. Warde, continued as brickmaker, Apr. 10, 1661; vol. VII. p. 99.]

1627, June 19.—Mr. [Edward] Rayner admitted preacher for the Sunday lecture, in Mr. Holden's place, to have the yearly allowance of £20 and what else Mr. Wilby, some time preacher, had. f. 221 [*see under* 1635.]

——, Nov. 3.—The King to be petitioned for the renewing of the charter, and for the prosecuting thereof 200*l.* to be borrowed upon mortgage of divers messuages, &c. f. 224[b].

——, Nov. 8.—The sheriff shall keep the cuckstool in the correction-house, and repair and maintain it from time to time. f. 225.

1628, Apr. 26.—No butcher to stuff, blow, or make hollow, or use any deceitful dealing, in setting out of any loin of veal, mutton, or lamb, upon pain of 12*d.* for every townsman, and 2*s.* for every foreigner, nor kill any

beast in his shop next the street nor kill any calf, mutton or lamb in the open street, upon pain of 12*d.* f. 226. 1628.

1628, May 3.—A law re-enacted [which had been revived Oct. 9, 1620, and repealed Oct. 20, 1621] by 17 voices to 9 that none be admitted to keep a common alehouse or tippling house except he be a freeman, and that upon the expiration of the licenses granted to those who are not freemen, or their dismission, they be not again licensed till they have purchased their freedoms. f. 226^{b}.

1629, Jan. 30.—The charter lately renewed was read. f. 231.

——, Apr. 27.—Upon further consideration of the law made May 3 last about alehouses, for that it appeareth that divers poor men and widows, not freemen, have no other means of livelihood but by keeping of alehouses, it is agreed that such as shall be approved by the justices may be re-admitted, but that none hereafter be newly admitted until they be first sworn freemen. f. 232.

——, June 8.—Forasmuch as there is a general dislike betwixt all parties about the maintaining of the work set up by agreement with Gregory Lawcock, and the said Lawcock hath, as he pretendeth, sustained great losses by the employment, and hath expended divers sums about looms and tools, which he offereth to leave to the use of the corporation, it is agreed that on payment of the sum of 30*l.* and delivery of the said looms and utensils, and payment of such rents for the Friers as are due, the said Lawcock shall be freed from the said employment. f. 232^{b}.

——, ——. The fines for non-attendance on the mayor at the riding of the two fairs lessened. f. 533.

——, Sept. 26.—Mention made of "the Queen's Cross." f. 234^{b}.

——, Oct. 15.—A general assessment to be made for the repair of the common gaol, it being so ruinous and weak that the sheriffs are enforced to keep continual watch to prevent the escaping of the prisoners. f. 238.

[About this time the Register appears to have been very imperfectly kept, and several pages are left blank. Very little is entered beyond leases, elections of officers, admission of freemen, and enrolment of apprentices.]

1632, Jan. 17.—No landlord to let a house to any foreigner without the consent of the mayor and the best part of the inhabitants of the parish where the house is, under penalty of 20*s* a month. f. 249.

1633, July 8.—No hides to be sold except in open market. f. 255.

——, Sept. 21. —The charge the mayor shall be put to at the entertainment of the lords, commissioners, and gentlemen, at the great meeting of Sewers in this city, by feasting them or otherwise, shall be borne by the corporation. f. 256.

1634, Feb. 5.—An indenture tripartite agreed to and sealed for the employment of one thousand pounds of the money collected upon the King's letters patent for relief of the city. f. 259^{b}.

——, Feb. 22.—A covering to be made for the pulpit in the church of St. Peter at Arches, and some amendment of the aldermen's and aldresses' seats. *Ibid.*

——, Feb. 26.—A letter under the King's sign manual of Dec. 7 last, reciting an order of King James for a survey for repair of the Foss, and

1634 for raising 300*l.* in the county and 300*l.* in the city for the purpose, and the order of the city thereupon for the abating 50*l* yearly for six years out of the mayor's allowance; also reciting that K. James, to aid the work, granted to the city the making of three baronets, and appointed Robert Morcroft, alderman, to receive the sums of money, and that Morcroft thereupon engaged a skilful workman to carry out the work; but that in consequence of this workman's death, and the sickness and old age of Morcroft, the work hath been neglected, but that Morcroft, having money in his hands and no exact account thereof, paid over to the city 247*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* Now upon Morcroft's humble suit, examination has been made by divers gentlemen of the county, and it appears there is due to him out of the said sum 88*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, which is hereby ordered to be paid to him. And whereas the yearly abatement of 50*l.* hath not been made from the mayor's allowance, it is ordered that it be charged upon the two last mayors, and on the four succeeding mayors, the King being informed with regard to the two last mayors that although they had the full allowance they did not keep and maintain the freemen's feasts according to the ancient and laudable custom. And order is given to proceed to the finishing of the work, the King being informed there are some skilful workmen now employed in that country, who are willing to undertake the same. f. 260.

Order of the Court of Star Chamber, dated 24 Jan., upon the petition of Richard White and Robert Marshall, the two late mayors, appointing commissioners to examine the petition, Morcroft's accounts, &c., and directing that until the return of the commission be received and new directions given there be no further prosecution of the order against White, Marshall, or any others. f. 260[b].

Followed by a memorandum that this order being published as was the former letter at this meeting, no further prosecution is made upon the same letter. [On 29 Aug. 1635 there is an order for a conference with the Earl of Rutland about Morcroft's money. f. 266[b].]

1634, Sept. 10.—Whereas there is great oppression in this city by the multitude of poor therein, which is found to come forth most part by poor people getting some small sums of money to educate poor children which afterwards prove chargeable to the parishes where they live, it is therefore enacted that no inhabitant shall take upon him or her to take to educate any children that are likely to prove chargeable, except their own, without giving notice to and having the approbation of the mayor and one or more of the aldermen, on pain of 5*l.* for each offence. f. 261.

1635, March 5.—The mayor and aldermen shall have liberty to deal with those gentlemen that desire allowance for a cup to be run for with horses on the scath on the south side of the city, and to agree on such articles as they shall think meet. f. 264.

——, ——. A present to be provided for the Bishop of Lincoln, of the value of 7*l.* or 8*l.* or thereabouts, against his resorting to this city, as is expected shortly. *Ibid.* (Again ordered 29 Aug.)

——, ——. In regard of the great favour Mr. High Sheriff of Lincolnshire hath showed to this city of late, therefore a present be provided of the value of 4*l.* or thereabouts against the next assizes. f. 264[b].

——, March 28.—Mr. William Rycroft elected vicar of Hanslope, Bucks, by 19 voices over 9 for Mr. John Kelke. *Ibid.*

1635, July 11.—The parsonage of Hemswell leased to Henry Scupholme for a fine of 46*l.* 10*s.*, at the old rent on condition of his paying to the vicar not less than 11*l.* nor more than 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* f. 266. 1635.

——, Aug. 29.—Mr. Edward Reyner* elected lecturer in the room of Mr. Robert Atkinson, who resigns on account of age and painful infirmities. *Ibid.*

——, Sept. 7.—Mr. Robert Morcroft and Mr. Richard White, aldermen, nominated and deputed to go to London to petition the Privy Council for their honours' pleasure to the sheriff of the county for confirming of an assessment agreed upon for this city and five other corporations in Lincolnshire touching the preparing of a ship of war for his Majesty's service; and the whole charges to be borne by the corporation unless some other course by his Majesty's writ can be taken for the same. f. 256[b].

——, ——. Enacted that orders like those of the corporation of Grantham (a copy of which the mayor has procured) touching the poor, for the better government of the city, be prepared by the counsel of the city, and the justices of assize be petitioned to confirm the same. *Ibid.*

1636, July 28.—Long and minute orders, prepared in pursuance of the above resolution, and confirmed by the judges Sir Richard Hutton and Sir Thomas Trevor, for the restraint of building poor cottages and unlicensed trading. They commence by stating that the continual building of small tenements and poor habitations, the converting of stables and barns, &c. into dwelling-houses, and the dividing of old houses into many separate small habitations for needy and beggarly people, occasions a great confluence and resort of poor people from foreign places; that these are very dangerous in times of pestilence and other contagions, and tend much to the nourishment of idleness, through the disorder of such kind of beggarly people, who are not able to live of themselves but on the charge of the parish. ff. 271–2.

It is noted at the end that "this was publiquely and openly at large read and published at the great court leet and sheriffs' turn," held Oct. 3, 1636.

1637, Sept. 12.—The 53*s.* expended in entertaining Mr. Serjeant Baune and other chief burgesses of Nottingham to be borne by the corporation. f. 277[b].

——, ——. The old silver can to be changed for a new plain silver can, at a charge not exceeding 40*s.* *Ibid.*

1638, Jan. 3.—Agreed that the charge the mayor or the sheriffs have been or are to be at about the business of shipping above the charge of 193*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* imposed be borne by the corporation. f. 279[b].

——, March 10.—The chancel and parsonage house of Hemswell to be repaired, so as the charge be not above 15*l.* f. 280.

Attached to the leaf inserted at f. 275[b] is the following curious entry, on a separate slip, in a hand of the beginning of the 16th century, and probably belonging to the Register that preceded the volume beginning at 1511. "Att this present secrete Counsell it is ordened established and enacted by the said Meier Recorder and Aldermen, and by the assent and consent of their Bredr[en] thatt be absent that from hensforth what so euer Alderman thatt frome hensforth gyffith any

* A well-known Puritan divine and writer, of Magdalen College, Oxford, matriculated 8 May, 1601, B.A. 19 Jan. 1603–4; died at Lincoln about or before 1663.

1638. obproprious contumelious sidicious or convicious words, callynge hym theff, horsone, knave or fals man, or elles make eny assaute or affray uppon eny of his said Bredr[en], thatt he thatt so mysbehavith hym as abouesaid agaynst eny of his said Bredr[en], and so provid before the said Maier and the residewe of his brederne thatt so shall assemble to here the same prove, shall forfett xx^{s} for euery tyme, and than the Maier for the tyme beynge shalbe chargied with the same some for the tyme beyng att his accompt.

"Also att the same secrett Counsell it was ordird by thauctoritie aforesaid thatt no maier ner justice of pease frome hensfurth shall commytt eny of the Aldermen of the citie to ward fore no cause except treasone, murdre, felony, or accessarye to murdre or felony, uppone the same forffetour, except thatt he do it by thadvice and consent of vi odre Aldermen of the same citie, and except also thatt itt for suertie of peace [be] demaundid oppynly att the sessions, or elles to award a warrant agaynst the same partie by thadvice of ii justicez of peace att the lest; and yitt if the offre suertie itt [is] to be takyne."

Vol. VI.—A folio volume of blank leaves with the exception of six about the middle of the volume which contain the proceedings of the year 1653–4, very badly written. It would seem likely that the earlier portion was left for the transcription of the minutes of probably some ten years preceding, which in the troubles of the Civil War had never been duly entered, or had been lost; while some portion of later years was no doubt contained in the pages now wanting at the beginning of the next volume.

1653[–4], March 7.—The boundaries between the ground of the rectory of St. Peter at Arches and a piece of ground of Mr. Reyner's freehold next adjoining, as set forth by the jurors of a court-leet, are entered at the desire of Mr. Reyner, "preacher of the Gospell in this citie."

——, —. John Bull the elder, William Deeping, Simon Browne, and Thomas Compton are admitted to be the city's waits or musicians.

Inserted at the beginning of this volume is a certificate which belongs to the next, of the production of that volume in a law suit at Lincoln in 1833, signed by Stacey Grimaldi, the genealogist, and others.

Vol. VII.—A folio volume of about 355 leaves at present, but wanting 54 at the beginning according to an old foliation, which is continued in a modern pagination after fol. 63. It contains the Acts from Jan. 26, 165$\frac{5}{6}$, to June 3, 1710.

The first entry is a copy of Sir William Ellis's "charitable disposition" for four poor widows in Lincoln.

1655–6, Feb. 2.—Agreed that a new common seal be provided, to be engraven in the same form to make the like impression to the old seal, and that the inscription in the outermost circle be "The comon seale of the city of Lincolne." f. 55^{b}.

——, March 8.—Whereas it is found necessary as well for upholding the Lord's-day and week-day lecture at the parish church of Peter at Arches as also for the encouragement and assistance of Mr. Edward Reyner and Mr. George Scottericke, lecturers at the cathedral, to provide another minister to assist them, agreed that 20*l. per an.* for five years be allowed to a minister of the Gospel, to be recommended by Mr. Reyner

and Mr. Scottericke, to assist them in preaching at the cathedral and said parish church. f. 55b. 1655–6.

1655–6, July 7.—Major Gen. Edward Whalley and Major Gen. James Berry admitted to the franchises of the city. f. 57b.

——, Sept. 10.—The lease of Hemswell parsonage to be renewed to Anne, widow of Henry Scupholme, for 25 years at a rent of 30*l.*, she paying 40*l.* arrears and a fine of 90*l.* f. 58.

——, Oct. 6.—The inventory of plate comprises one ewer, Mr. Dennys' two bowls, one tun, one salt, one tankard, one goblet of the old fashion, three beer bowls, one case of knives; "all the other plate wanting, as hath been five last years, besides the case of knives lost, only eight now delivered." f. 59b.

1656–7, Feb. 28.—Agreed that the leads of the roof of Peter at Arches be repaired from the east to the furthest end of the common council loft, so as the heads of the mayor, aldermen, and common council be kept dry, and that a window-light be put forth against the loft; provided that this be not drawn into a precedent nor disengage the parishioners from repairing the church. f. 60b.

——, July 25.—Nathaniel Tuke, clerk, to have 5*l.* yearly for his pains in preaching at Hemswell. f. 62b.

1657–8, Jan. 7.—In reply to a letter from the parishioners of Belton for nomination of a vicar and augmentation of his stipend, the former is promised and the latter refused, the present proportion being equal in value to what it was when the impropriation was granted. p. 67.

——, Aug. 14.—Mr. Edmund Laurence presented to the vicarage of Hanslope. p. 70.

[Four leaves of a register of admissions of freemen from July 1658 to June 1659 here lie loose in the volume.]

——, Dec. 22.—Mr. John Baldwin admitted vicar of Belton, with the same allowance that his father had; and if the corporation are satisfied of the good affections of the parishioners towards him and of his abilities for the ministry, then to have an augmentation of 10*l.*; but this not to be a precedent. p. 77.

1659, Apr. 5.—The chancel of Belton and the Free School-house of the city repaired. pp. 77, 78.

——, June 14.—The forty-seven pounds returned this summer from the county of Sussex of money collected by the briefs in that county towards the relief of this city in the time of its visitation by the pestilence to be made up to 50*l.* and put forth upon interest to be employed in the relief of the city poor. p. 79.

1660, Apr. 28.—The mayor to lay out the moneys of the Marshalsea to mariners and maimed soldiers. p. 85.

——, June 19.—The fee farm rent of this city (of 81*l. per an.*) to be re-granted and presented to the King, and Robert Marshall, esq., counsel to the city, to draw up an address to his majesty for that end. p. 86. Order about the presentation of the address, June 26. p. 87.

——, June 2.—Oswald Rhumney, clerk, presented to the vicarage of Hemswell, p. 86. And again as "Osney Rumney" on March 2,

1660 166$\frac{0}{1}$. p. 98. Thirty shillings given to "Oswold Rumney" towards his charges for institution Aug. 5, 1661. p. 102.

1660, June 2.—Six shillings and eightpence to be paid monthly to aldress Bartholmew, widow, she being very poor and about eighty years of age. *Ibid.*

——, Sept. 26.—The yearly stipend of 40*l.* to be paid to Mr. Edward Reyner and Mr. Abdy, ministers and lecturers of this city. p. 89.

——, Oct. 11.—An address to the Lord Lieutenant of the county, with a list of the soldiers to be arrayed, and the number of the common arms of the city, to be presented at Sleaford on Oct. 19. p. 93.

——, Nov. 28.—Letter from the King, of Nov. 15, for the displacing of intruded aldermen and restoration of those displaced "in these late ill times." Thereupon Mr. John Oliver is displaced and Mr. William Bishop restored, and Mr. Richard Wetherall is restored on March 2 following to his place of coroner. pp. 97, 98.

The King's letter again considered on June 15 and 26, 1661, and Alexander Newcome and William Dawson displaced, and Edward Blawe restored and Richard Wetherall elected, as aldermen. pp. 100, 101.

1661, Aug. 5.—Whereas a petition was preferred to the King by some few citizens against the mayor and some of the aldermen, suggesting their embezzling the money of the city and other pretended miscarriages, which business was heard before the Privy Council, and they were all dismissed from any further attendance at the Board about it, now for the further satisfaction of all persons concerned in the said money it is agreed that diligent enquiry shall be made for the finding out of all stocks and sums of money misemployed and for the recovery and right employing of the same. p. 102.

——, ——. Agreed that the two maces shall be altered, and that the King's arms, crown and cross shall be set upon the great mace, and that the small mace shall have the King's arms engraven upon it. *Ibid.*

1662, Aug. 23–Sept. 23.—Orders and Warrants of the King's commissioners for putting in execution the Act of Parliament for the well governing of corporations, displacing and restoring numerous members and officers of the corporation. pp. 111–13. William Dawson, displaced in 1661, is restored.

——, Sept. 20.—Whereas we are informed from the Dean and Chapter that they having their library called Great St. Mary's formerly in the unhappy war plundered, some books of which library is conceived by them to be in our custody, it is therefore agreed that they shall have a view of what books we have in the school library, and such of them as they shall sufficiently make appear did belong to their library to be forthwith restored unto them. p. 116.

——, Oct. 14.—Mr. Justice Terrill's proposition for an augmentation to the vicar of Hanslope refused. p. 120.

——, Oct. 23.—Warrants for displacing and appointing several members of the corporation. pp. 123–4.

1663, Apr. 21.—In consequence of an Act of Parliament now being in debate in the House of Commons touching augmentations of livings in corporations, which will be the ruin of Lincoln if timely provision be not made for uniting of parishes in the city, four of the ablest, ancient-

est and discreetest parishioners of each parish are to be summoned to appear before the mayor and aldermen to give an account what every parish may afford towards the maintenance of a minister, and how many parishes are fit to be united. p. 126. 1663.

1663, Sept. 14.—For prevention of abuses heretofore committed upon election days by foreign poor people, proclamation to be made that no poor people whatsoever shall come to the houses of the mayor elect and sheriffs elect, upon pain of punishment by the law; and the mayor and sheriffs elect shall send contributions as they shall think fit to the several parishes to-morrow in bread, to be disposed of to such poor only as shall keep at home in obedience to this law. p. 129.

——, Nov. 19.—Thomas Dawson, who was displaced as alderman by the commissioners' warrant of Oct. 23, 1662, appeared at the Council and refused to absent himself, alleging that the warrant was illegal. p. 134.

1664, Jan. 9.—A confirmation of the charters to be applied for, in consequence of a writ of *Quo warranto* having been issued. p. 135.

1668, Aug. 12.—Whereas the inhabitants of the town of Wragby are now about procuring a grant from his Majesty for several fairs which may prove very prejudicial to this city, and whereas a writ of *Ad quod dampnum* is to be executed to-morrow at Wragby, the Recorder and some of the aldermen, &c., are desired to go over to make appear to the sheriff and jurors what damage it may be to this city, and to take with them the charter of Hen. IV. in which several fairs are granted to the city, and also certain "Suggestions" [*or* Reasons] engrossed on parchment. p. 175. The Suggestions are given at p. 180.

——, Nov. 7.—The Recorder thanked for his care and pains in the business at Wragby, and to have 20*s.*; the town-clerk to have 10*s.* p. 179.

——, ——. The charter of K. Henry IV. was this day delivered into the iron trunk, and the charter of Hen. VIII. *Ibid.*

——, ——. Whereas the Bishop of Lincoln was formerly moved concerning the Free School, but no visitation is yet made thereof, agreed that there shall be further address made to the said Bishop and to the Dean and Chapter to desire their care and pains in visiting and making inspection into the School. *Ibid.*

1669, May 22.—Whereas by the multiplicity of halfpennies and farthings of many several stamps uttered, paid out, and spread abroad by several particular tradesmen and private persons within this city (for private profit and gain), the citizens and inhabitants . . . . are at much loss and trouble by their receiving halfpence and farthings of so many several stamps that they cannot without much trouble distinguish the owners . . . nor sort them in such manner as to send them to the owners to change, and after all that pains and trouble many times cannot have them changed without much repining of such persons as put the same forth, and sometimes the owners do absolutely refuse to change the same, and some persons that have put forth such farthings are since dead or removed far from this city, that those which have taken such farthings and halfpence cannot have the same changed but are at a clear loss therein: now, for the prevention of the like for the future, and for the profit and advantage of the poor of this city, and for fit and convenient change, it is ordered and agreed upon that one stamp for the stamping of one fair and large halfpenny of good yellow brass to be made and stamped at the public charge of this city, with the city arms

1669. on one side thereof, and these words on the other side thereof *Lincoln Citty halfepenny Changed by the Maior*, shall be forthwith provided and gotten, and so many halfpennies stamped therewith as twenty pounds will purchase; . . . . [and the sheriffs] as soon as they can get them from London to pay them to the Mayor to be by him forthwith dispersed; and the common cryer shall the next market-day after the receipt . . . proclaim this act, and decry all other halfpennies and farthings from passing within this city; and the mayor . . . shall at all times hereafter readily and freely change the said halfpennies and give silver for them to the full value which they pass for so oft as they shall be brought to him by any person or persons; and . . . shall every six months give account of the stock and profit of the said halfpennies; and the said mayor and aldermen to distribute all such profit amongst the most needful poor so oft and in such manner as they shall thin7 fit; and that no more halfpennies shall at any time hereafter be stamped or provided for the use of this city without the consent of the common council. p. 183.

1669, May 22.—Order for observing the King's birthday by attendance at service at the Cathedral and by a dinner, with a fine of 2/6 on every person neglecting. p. 184.

——, ——. The proposals made by several persons to be the city's brickmaker. p. 185. John Widnall elected for life, who offered a fine of 35*l.* and undertook to enlarge the size of brick and tile, over two others who offered fines of 30*l.*, and one who offered 20*l.*

——, July 5.—Twenty pounds' worth more of the city's halfpennies ordered to be procured and stamped. p. 187.

——, July 24.—Five pounds' worth of farthings of yellow brass to be procured, and stamped with the city arms on one side, and these words on the other side *Lincolne Citty farthing*. p. 188.

——, ——. Whereas divers persons of honour and quality out of their kindness and respects to this city and for the benefit and advantage of the citizens and inhabitants thereof, have a desire that one or more horse-races may be set up annually for ever upon the heath in the parishes of Harmston and Colby, under such articles as shall be thought fit by the trustees, viz. Lady Dorothy Stanhope, the Earl of Lindsey, Henry Earl of Ogle, John Earl of Exeter, George Visc. Castleton, Bennett Lord Sherrard, John Lord Roos, Sir John Monson, the elder, bart., and Sir Robert Carr, bart., and that lands may be purchased and settled on them and their heirs; and that in case a constant rent of 24*l. per an.* or more be raised, that then one third part may be employed for a lesser plate to be run for by hunting horses, and the other two parts be for the providing a greater plate, not to be run for the same day, and that no horse above six years old be admitted to run for either; and they are desirous to know what money will be given by this city; it is agreed that 20*l.* be for this end advanced. p. 189.

——, Nov. 20.—The charters of Henry II., Richard I., John, Henry III., Edward I. and Edward II., which were lately delivered out to Mr. South, town clerk, for defence of a suit brought by one Gilliat against the late sheriffs, were now delivered back and laid into the chest. p. 195.

——, ——. Notice to be again given by the cryer that no halfpennies or farthings are to be taken but those stamped by the city. p. 196.

——, ——. Fifteen pounds' worth more of halfpennies and five pounds' worth of farthings to be procured. *Ibid.*

1670, June 15.—Ten pounds' worth more of brass halfpennies to be procured. p. 200. 1670.

——, Oct. 20.—William Farmer, of Thavies Inn, Holborn, to be employed as solicitor to attend Parliament touching an Act for making navigable several rivers leading to this city. p. 210.

1671, March 16.—The schoolmaster and usher of this city to have each of them 20*s.* towards their charges of their scholars' last acts. p. 211.

——, Oct. 1.—In the inventory are entered these books: Pulton's *Statutes at large*, Scobell's *Acts, Acts relating to Justices of the Peace*, and five new statute books all bound together in one in a parchment cover. p. 217.

[From 4 Oct. 1671 onwards to Nov. 11, 1672, constant entries occur relative to the work with regard to the navigation of the rivers.]

1673, June 25.—20*l. per an.* to be paid to Walter Broomesgrove, clerk, who is likely to come to be parson of St. Peter at Arches, for preaching a sermon every Sunday in the afternoon and Michaelmas day in the forenoon. p. 235.

1675, Oct. 4.—In the inventory is entered, one piece of old gold given to the corporation by Mr. Michael Hollingworth. p. 263.

1676, Apr. 29.—Ordered that the halfpence and farthings belonging to the city shall be sold by the mayor to such person or persons as will give the most for them. p. 270.

——, May 25.—This Common Council being (by many testimonials of unquestionable credit) assured of the sad condition of Isa a Caldeon, a priest, and his sons, it is ordered that the mayor shall give 20*s.* towards the relief of him and his sons. p. 271.

——, Oct. 2.—In the inventory occur for the first time the "Ensigns of authority," viz., three swords, one large mace, one little mace, one cap of maintenance, one tipstaff, one walking staff with a seal upon it. p. 276.

1678, Jan. 21.—An addition of 4*l. per an.* granted to the vicarage of Hanslope, on the presentation of Mr. William Ward as vicar. p. 291.

——, May 14.—An additional 4*l.* granted to him. p. 294.

——, Sept. 30.—In the inventory are now entered, one lesser silver tankard, one silver salt, and one dozen silver spoons, which tankard salt and spoons were bought by way of exchange for the great ewer with some addition of money. p. 304.

1679, Feb. 4.—On reading of a petition from all or most of the inhabitants of Belton, of the vacancy of their vicarage, wherein they do utterly disclaim, deny and detest of having any liberty to make choice of another vicar and all right of presentation to the same vicarage, it is now ordered that another person shall be elected in the room of the late vicar Mr. Hugh Shaw, deceased. John Upsall is elected by 26 voices over 5 given for John Reyner* and one for Stephen Willoughby. p. 308.

——, May 29.—Ordered that the mayor shall pay to Joseph archbishop of Samos the sum of 5*l.* towards the building of a Greek church in London. p. 309.

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* Son of Edw. Reyner; *see* under 1635. He published some of his father's writings in 1663 and 1669.

1679. person so offending; in default of payment, to be levied by distress. p. 311.

1679, June 7.—The sword-bearer to take special notice of every alderman and common councilman coming to St. Peter's Church on Sunday afternoons without their gowns, and to demand xii*d.* of every

——, June 21.—The customs, statutes, and ordinances of the Company of Tailors, formerly granted to them, to be renewed, with such alterations and additions as shall be agreed on. p. 313.

——, July 26.—A silver tankard bequeathed by Henry Morley, senior alderman, deceased, is received from his executrix. p. 314.

——, Dec. 6.—The ordinances of the Company of Tailors sealed, which were confirmed on Sept. 25. pp. 321–7.

The ordinances, which are 18 in number, are said to be for "the "continuance, sustentation, maintenance and relief of the occupation, "mistery, craft and company of taylours," the ordinances heretofore granted having been discontinued and not observed, to the great decay and hurt of the city. The subjects of the ordinances are as follows:—

1. Yearly election of a master, two wardens and a dean.

2. No tailor to set up or do any work before agreement with the master and the mayor; foreign tailors to pay 40*s.* to the master, etc.

3. Forfeit of 2*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for "upsetts" before agreement.

4. Every foreign tailor to pay 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for his "upsett."

5. No foreign tailor to work at all in any private house, and no tailor of the company without it be for one day to do his customer a pleasure.

6. No person to set any on work except he be a master-man.

7. Two persons to be elected to be searchers of defaults in any manner of garment, on complaint thereof.

8. No person to shape or cut against the wool, or set any inconvenient piece in the outside of any garment unless for want of cloth or that the owner will have it so, nor set any cloth of the right side, nor shape any motley or damask against the leaves or branches.

9. Payments to the dean and clerk at first entry and yearly, and where and when the four morn-speech days shall be kept, with forfeits for non-attendance.

10. Every journeyman working 16 days to pay 4*d.*, and if he continue a year to pay 12*d.* yearly.

11. Forfeitures for refusing to hold office, &c.

12. Lands may be bought for the company, and goods and legacies received.

13. Every brother to be a franchest man.

14. Concerning evil words and misbehaviour in the master's presence, to be punished by forfeiture or imprisonment. Tailors not to take more for making a pair of plain hose of an apprentice or servant than 4*d.*, and for making a coat with sleeves than 9*d.*, for every doublet 1*s.* 4*d.*, and every coat without sleeves 7*d.*

15. None to buy any cloth, &c., or trimming for any garment to sell the same again, or to buy or sell any linings, or to make for sale any drawers.

16. Concerning the burying of poor brethren, and allowances while living.

17. The master to have power to commit brethren to ward who do not pay forfeitures.

18. Concerning determination of ambiguities or doubts in these articles.

1680, March 27.– Richard Sharpe to have a lease of a messuage with a close or orchard in St. Mary's parish on giving bond of 50*l.* that he will not bury any person, nor suffer any person to be buried, in the ground belonging to the said house. p. 328. 1680.

1681, Aug. 25.—The town-clerk ordered to attend at St. Peter's church every Sunday afternoon in his gown, on pain of 12*d.* for every default. p 46.

——, Oct. 3.—In the inventory the seals are described thus, at greater length than before: One statute box with the greater part of the statute seal in it, two other silver seals, one old silver cognizance, and one piece of silver which came off a sword panel. Also, one dozen of large white-hafted case knives, all in a case together with a cover. p. 351.

——, Dec. 14.—Upon the reading of a letter from Sir Thomas Meres at London about several French Protestants coming to inhabit in this city, and for a stock and convenient lodgings to be provided for them at the city's charge, it is ordered that the mayor do forthwith send a letter to Sir Thomas Meres, that there is not any convenient houses or places in this city for them to come to dwell here, and that the city is not in a condition to raise a stock for them, and also that it is the opinion of this common council that it will be no advantage to this city but a prejudice to them and all others. p. 353.

1682, Oct. 2.—In the inventory, two dozen large pewter trencher plates given by Mr. Garnon, alderman, and two dozen and a half pewter trencher plates given by the present mayor, Charles Allanson, all having the city's arms thereupon. p. 361.

1683, July 18.—Address of congratulation to the King on the discovery of the conspiracy for the assassination of himself and his brother [the Rye House plot]. p. 369.

——, Oct. 1.—In the inventory, four pewter ten-pound dishes given by ald. Coxall, and six dozen pewter trencher plates bought by Mr. Loddington for 40*s.*, in lieu of a collation on his election as alderman. (p. 367.) The city weights are also entered. p. 373.

1684, Jan. 4.—William Hooton gives one dozen and a half mazarine pewter plates in lieu of 20*s.* for a collation on his election as an alderman. pp. 374, 375.

——, June 4.—Agreement with Joseph Newton of Leicester about the Jersey school. p. 380.

——, ——. Saxilby bridge to be repaired, part of which has fallen. *Ibid.*

——, July 10.—With an unanimous consent it is agreed that the charter granted by King Charles I. shall be surrendered to his present Majesty. p. 381.

—— Sept. 4.—Letters read about the surrender of the charter, from the Mayor to Lord Chief Justice Jeffreys at York, dated July 11, and from Jeffreys in reply, dated July 14. The mayor thanks him in the name of the city for the honour of his late visit, informs him of the agreement for the surrender, and desires instructions by the bearers to whom and in what manner those employed herein shall make application when at London or at Court. Jeffreys returns thanks for the late kind and noble reception of him and his brother [-judge], and for their truly loyal vote; has given the King by this post a full account of their loyal and prudent behaviour; will not forget his promise of making their way easy, and freeing them from as much expense in money and time as he can. As

1684. the King is suddenly designed for Winchester and from thence to New Market, thinks it advisable that they await his further directions on his return from circuit. pp. 383–4.

1684, Oct. 6.—In the inventory there are further gifts of pewter plates, four large iron spits, racks, iron range and stamp. p. 386.

——, Oct. 18.—Form of surrender of that part of the charter touching the election of any persons into any city offices, "considering how much it imports the government of this kingdom to have men of known loyalty and approved integrity to bear offices of magistracy and places of trust"; desiring a re-grant of all privileges in such manner and form as his Majesty shall judge most conducing to the good government of the city, and with such reservations, restrictions, and qualifications, as he shall appoint. p. 388.

Memorandum that on Nov. 2, being Sunday, 1684, the surrender and charter of Charles I. were presented to the King by a deputation of four persons (introduced by Jeffreys), together with a petition for a new charter "and several other things," and that the King received them very kindly, and promised a new charter, &c. p. 389.

1685, Jan. 1.—Reception of the new charter. This morning, about 8 o'cl., Mr. Mayor and the aldermen in their scarlet gowns, the sheriffs, common council men, and chamberlains, all in their gowns, attended with the company of trained bands and several gentlemen, and inhabitants to a considerable number, walked from Mr. Mayor's house to Barr gates and so against St. Katherine's, and upon the green there Mr. Mayor received the new charter from Sir Thomas Hussey, bart., who had it sent to him by the Earl of Lindsey, the city's new Recorder. So soon as Mr. Mayor received the charter and the key of the box where the same was, he opened the box, and took the charter out, and he, the aldermen, sheriffs, common councilmen, chamberlains, and most of the gentlemen and company there, kissed the seal, and after loudly shouted *God save the King*. Then Mr. Mayor delivered the charter to the Town Clerk, who was present in his gown, and ordered him to carry it open before him to the Guildhall. Thereupon Mr. Mayor with Sir Thomas Hussey and several other gentlemen, the aldermen, and all the rest of the body and company, walked up the city to the Guildhall, the trained bands going before to make way; the street was filled with people, the city's waits playing before Mr. Mayor, and the bells ringing. In this manner they came to the Guildhall, where the charter was openly read by the Town Clerk, and the hall was crowded with people. Then Mr. Mayor was sworn mayor and justice of peace, which being done they came out of the Guildhall, and so went to the great conduit, which ran claret wine, and there drank the King's and Duke of York's health. After that, the gentlemen and company went along with Mr. Mayor to his house to a great dinner. After dinner, in their way Mr. Mayor and the company drank the King's and Duke of York's health at the lesser conduit, which ran likewise claret wine, &c. The bells rang all the day, and music played, drums beating, &c., and the night concluded with bonefires and ringing of bells clear through the city. p. 390.

Memorandum: The Bishop of Lincoln gave 20*l.*, and Sir Thomas Hussey, Sir Henry Monson, Sir Thomas Meres, knt., and Henry Stone esq., each 10*l.*, towards the charges of renewing the charter. *Ibid.*

——, Feb. 9.—This day in the afternoon, not long after the post came in, his Majesty King James II. was proclaimed King in these several places, viz., upon the green in St. Botolph's parish, upon the hill against St. Mary's church, at the Stone-bow, at Bail-gates, in the Minster Yard,

and in Newport, by the Mayor and aldermen in their scarlet gowns, the Town-clerk, sheriffs, common-council men, and chamberlains, in their gowns, all on horseback, the Dean and Chapter being present, and several gentlemen citizens and inhabitants attending all on horseback, attended with a great number of citizens, inhabitants and others on foot, according to the order of Council. [This order then follows, with a copy of the King's proclamation as printed.] After his Majesty was proclaimed as aforesaid, the Mayor, aldermen, &c. went to the Guildhall, where a banqueting was provided at the city's charge, and then they went to some bonefires, and drank the King's, Queen's, and royal family's healths, and the night concluded with bonefires, drums beating, ringing of bells, &c. pp. 393–4. 1685.

1685, Feb. 28.—An address sent to the King on his accession, subscribed by the Mayor, corporation, citizens, and inhabitants, to the number of five hundred and more. p. 395.

——, July 21.—Whereas for these several years now last past it hath been a custom in this city for the mayor elect and the two sheriffs elect severally to make and give a treat or banqueting on every Holy Rood day, being Sept. 14, presently after they were elected, and the said treat or banquetting not only being a great trouble and charge, and several abuses and misdemeanours committed on that day by the freemen and inhabitants and the great number of foreigners which constantly resort to the said treat, to the great disturbance of the King's peace and abuse of the said treat; and for that the said treat or banquetting upon serious consideration is looked upon to be a thing altogether unnecessary and useless; therefore it is hereby ordered that the said treat . . . . shall for the future be clearly laid aside and none made. And the city being much in debt for money borrowed for the Foss dyke and for renewing the charter, 13*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* shall yearly be deducted from the Mayor's allowance of 90*l.*, and 26*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* from the sheriffs' allowance of 46*l.* p. 398.

——. Mr. Henry Stone, of Skellingthorpe, gave one new velvet hat of maintenance, made in London, which cost near 20*l.* p. 399.

1686, March 6.—Order against the opening of any shop or the using of any trade by foreigners not free of the city. p. 408.

——, Oct. 4.—In the inventory, nine pewter dishes bought by Mr. Coxall, late mayor, of Mr. Freeston's executors, with his coat of arms and the city's set thereon. p. 416.

1687, Aug. 3.—Belton chancel to be viewed and repaired. p. 422. And the parsonage house, July 5, 1688. p. 436.

A new sun-dial to be set up over the Guildhall. p. 422.

——, Oct. 3.—In the inventory of plate a large gold ring appears for the first time. p. 426.

——, Dec. 31.—Abraham Morrice, mercer, brought the following letter from the King to the mayor and corporation for making him a freeman without taking any oaths. "James R. Trusty and well-beloved we greet you well. Whereas we have received a good character of the loyalty of our well-beloved subject Abraham Morrice, mercer, we have thought fit hereby to require you to make him a freeman of that our city of Lincoln, with all the rights and privileges thereunto belonging, without administering unto him any oath or oaths whatsoever, with which we are graciously pleased to dispense in his behalf. And for so doing this shall be your warrant. . . . At our Court at Whitehall, Dec. 5." After reading of the said letter it was ordered

1688. and agreed that the said Abr. Morrice be made a freeman . . . in pursuance of his Majesty's letter. pp. 429–30.

1688, May 26.—The usual stipend of 20*l.* granted to Mr. Christopher Colson lately elected usher of the Free School. p. 434.

——, Oct. 1.—In the inventory the new hat of maintenance given by Mr. Stone is the only one mentioned. p. 440.

1689, Feb. 16.—This day in the afternoon, presently after the post came in and persons had notice given, their majesties King William and Queen Mary were proclaimed [in the same places and with the same formalities as James II. Copies of the letter from the Council, and of the two proclamations for the proclaiming and for all persons to continue in their offices, follow.] After their majesties were proclaimed the said Mr. Mayor, *etc.* went to the Guildhall, where wine ale and biscuit were provided at the city's charge to drink their majesties' health, and in the evening they all went to several bonefires, and there drank their majesties' and the royal family's healths, and the night concluded with bonefires, drums beating, bells ringing, music playing and several other expressions of joy. pp. 443–4.

——, March.—The order of Dec. 31 last for making Abr. Morrice a freeman ordered to be void and of none effect, his late Majesty having by his Declaration dissolved and made his letter void. p. 445.

1690, July 10.—120*l.* given by Henry Stone, of Skellingthorpe, esq., the interest to be laid out for the use of the poor yearly in coals, corn, or any other things as the Corporation may think fit. p. 459.

——, Aug. 13.—John Osbaldeston, M.A., student of Ch. Ch., Oxford, who has come to be rector of St. Peter at Arches, to have the usual yearly stipend of 20*l.* for preaching a sermon every Sunday in the afternoon and every Michaelmas day in the forenoon. *Ibid.*

1691, Feb. 28.—The inner chamber adjoining the Guildhall to be handsomely ceiled with Norway oak for 40*l.* p. 467.

——, Dec. 5.—The usual stipend to be paid to Mr. Thomas Muston who succeeds Mr. Osbaldeston, who is dead, at St. Peter's. p. 475.

1692, Apr. 2.—Christopher Hillyard elected vicar of Hemswell, in the room of Mr. Gibson, deceased. p. 476. But on Aug. 4, 1693, the vicarage being declared vacant by reason he had left the same and had taken no care to serve it for several months past, and the parishioners being very anxious to have a curate, John Towne is elected to be vicar by 19 voices over 4 for Anthony Smith. p. 491.

1693, June 21.—Gervase Turner elected curate of Belton, in the room of Mr. Upsall, deceased, by 19 voices over 8 given for John Sykes, and 2 for Fulljam Blackman. p. 489.

1695, Jan. 23.—An address of condolence ordered to be presented to the King on the death of Queen Mary. p. 504.

——, Oct. 28.—This morning so soon as the post came in from Grantham Mr. Major and the aldermen received an account that his Majesty King William was on his journey from London, and intended to be in this city to-morrow night, and so pass clear through it to his lodgings at Lieut.-Col. Pownall's house in the Minster Yard, late the house where Bishop Fuller lived. Presently after, Mr. Major sent to the aldermen to meet him at the Guildhall to consult what was the best to be done, and accordingly they met together, and went clear down the street as far as the Little Goat Bridges, and as they went along they

ordered all the parishes to get carts and labourers to cleanse the streets, and carry the dirt and rubbish away from thence. Which was done accordingly that day and the next day before the King came, as well as possibly could be done upon such a short warning. All the cross rails down the street were ordered to be taken up, and all stones, wood and other obstructions lying and being in the highway were removed. In the afternoon Mr. Major ordered his officers to give notice and warning to Mr. Recorder, all the aldermen, sheriffs, common council men, and chamberlains, the steward and town clerk, all to provide horses, and to meet the next day at the Guildhall in their gowns at three o'cl. in the afternoon. 1695.

1695, Oct. 29.—This day about three o'cl. in the afternoon Mr. Major and the aldermen [*etc.*] . . . all in their gowns, attended with the Major's officers in their gowns, all met at the Guildhall, and when all were ready they went into the High Street against the said hall, and there mounted on horseback, the city's waits, Newark waits, trumpets hautboys and drums being all ready, they rode down the street, two and two together, as far as the Great Barr gate, the music playing, trumpets sounding and drums beating before them, attended with a great number of gentlemen, citizens, and others, all on horseback. When they came there, and waited an hour or two, the sheriffs with their officers on horseback rid up Cross a Cliff, and about the midway to Reddhall they there waited for his Majesty's coming with torches, links and flamboys; and about 7 o'cl. at night the King in his coach with some of his lords, attended with his guards, came there, and the sheriffs on their knees offered their white staves to his Majesty, but he did not take them. Then the sheriffs got upon their horses, and rode bare before the King's coach (the guards being on both sides them and the coach) till they came to the Great Barr Gate, where Mr. Major, the Recorder, aldermen and company staid. When the King's coach was just through the gate Mr. Major on his knees offered to give his Majesty the great sword which belongs to the city, but the King did not take it. Then Mr. Recorder being just by Mr. Major and near the King's coach, he on his knees made a speech to his Majesty, congratulating his Majesty's safe coming to this city, and how joyful the city in general were to see his Majesty, with a great many expressions of loyalty and duty. Mr. Recorder having ended his speech, Mr. Major and he got upon their horses (the rest of the aldermen and a great company of the body of the city, with a great many gentlemen and others, all on horseback), and so Mr. Major bore the sword before the King's coach, with the hat of maintenance on his head, clear through the city to the King's lodgings in the Minster yard, to Lieut.-Col. Pownall's house, as before. The aldermen went just before Mr. Major, and the other company before them all, on horseback, in ranks, the music, trumpets, and drums before, playing, sounding, and drums beating, clear up the street without intermission. The streets were full of flamboys, torches, links and candles, and crowded with vast numbers of people, and great shoutings and loud acclamations of the people; all the houses, shops and other places were all illuminated with lights and candles, the bells all ringing. When the King came to his lodgings, Mr. Major and the aldermen went in before his Majesty, attended by the gentlemen and others. The King when he was got into the house went up "staiths" into a chamber, and staid there a little while. After, the King came down again, and then Mr. Major, the Recorder, aldermen, steward, town clerk and sheriffs, all on their knees, kissed his Majesty's hand, and were afterwards entertained

1695. at a banquet with wine of all sorts and sweetmeats in great quantities, all at the King's charge.

The next morning between 7 and 8 o'cl., Mr. Major and the aldermen in their scarlet gowns, the town clerk, sheriffs and common council men, waited upon his Majesty to the Minster to hear prayers. And after the prayers were ended, his Majesty took coach and went immediately to the Duke of Newcastle's house, to Welbeck in Nottinghamshire, attended by the high sheriff of Lincolnshire and a great many gentlemen and others, all on horseback. pp. 513–14.

1695, Dec. 16.—His Majesty having been graciously pleased, when he was lately here, to grant, upon the request of the mayor and aldermen, a new fair to be kept yearly at such a time as the city should think convenient, enquiry to be made of some knowing persons when is the properest time in the year for the same, and a letter then to be sent to the city's parliament men to make application for the grant. p. 515.

——, ——. John Morris elected to the curacy of Belton, void by the death of Mr. Turner. p. 516.

1696, Apr. 30.—Three hundred and odd pounds in clipped money to be sent up to London to be exchanged for new milled money of gold. p. 517.

——, Aug. 22.—Order whe the new fair is to be kept and what tolls to be taken. p. 519.

1697, Feb. 8.—Order about a return to a *Mandamus* from the King's Bench to admit Abraham Morrice, mercer, as a freeman, he having served seven years as an apprentice in the city. p. 527.

——, Dec. 8.—A house assigned for a house of correction. p. 538.

1698.—From this year the inventories cease to be registered, their contents being said to be delivered to the mayor "as by a note." p. 546.

[1702.—There is no entry of the proclamation of Q. Anne.]

1704, Aug. 8.—Order about a suit to be tried at the next assizes on a dispute with the dean and chapter about the liberties and privileges of the city, which the dean and chapter call in question and dis wn. p. 598.

——, Sept. 23.—An address of congratulation to the Queen ordered, on the victory gained by the duke of Marlborough. p. 602.

1706, May 21.—An entertainment to be provided at the city's charge for the Bishop of Lincoln. p. 617.

1707, Apr. 3.—Proposed that 10*l.* be paid towards the relief of the poor episcopal clergy in Scotland. p. 628. [This is not again mentioned, and therefore probably was not confirmed at the next meeting of the common council.]

——, ——. Ordered that the Queen be addressed to congratulate her upon account of the Union. *Ibid.*

——, Sept. 27 and Oct. 22.—Ordered that St. Hugh's fair be removed, for all goods and merchandise, from the Friars to the High Street, between the High bridge and Down Town lock. pp. 634, 636.

——, Nov. 13.—The chancel of Belton church to be viewed and repaired. p. 637.

——, Dec.—The mayor to pay 10*l.* forthwith towards the loss by fire at Grantham. *Ibid.*

1708, June 12.—10*l.* to be given to the parish of St. Peter in Eastgate towards repairing "Greeseing" stairs, they putting the same in sufficient repair and maintaining them so. p. 639. 1708.

——, Aug. 28.—An address to the Queen upon the late victory sealed and sent up. p. 640.

1710, June 30.—Ordered that an address be presented to the Queen to congratulate her upon the success of her arms, and to stand by her and the Established Church, and the Protestant succession as established by Act of Parliament. p. 660.

At the end of this volume, reversed, are the original signatures, on fifteen leaves, to the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and renouncing the Solemn League and Covenant, of all the persons admitted to office in the corporation, from March 25, 1663, to Sept. 14, 1709.

Vol. VIII.—A folio volume of 908 pages, extending from June 17, 1710, to 14 Sept. 1800.

1710[–11], March 8.—Every justice, alderman, and common councilman to attend the mayor, in their gowns, to church, on all Sundays, etc., under penalty of a fine of 12*d.*, to be levied by distress. p. 6. Again ordered on 14 Sept. 1724. p. 99.

——, Jan. 31 and March 13.—Rev. Mr. Garmston thanked for his sermon on 30 Jan. and 10*l.* voted for defraying his charge of printing it.

1714, Oct. 26.—Shadrach Garmston elected vicar of Hanslope, and 10*l.* voted to Mrs. Ward, the widow of the late vicar, in consideration of her necessitous condition. p. 31.

1715, Apr. 22.—20*l.* given to Spalding for relief of the poor sufferers there. p. 32.

1716, May 24.—An address to be sent to congratulate the King upon his success in suppressing the late unnatural rebellion. p. 39.

1718, Dec. 9.—Mr. Booth, usher of the Grammar School, desired to print his sermon preached at St. Mary's church upon account of the Anabaptists, and 10*l.* to be paid him for defraying the charge. p. 51.

1718[–9], Feb. 9.—Five guineas to be given to Mr. Booth for printing his book, being a Replication to the Anabaptists' answer to his sermon.* p. 58.

1719, May 9.—Application to be made for a brief for rebuilding the church of St. Peter-at-Arches. p. 61.

——, May 21.—1000*l.* to be taken up at interest by the city and employed towards the rebuilding of the church of St. Peter-at-Arches, *ibid.* 100*l. per an.* to be paid for ten years from Mich. 1719. p. 62. A small deficiency made up to the trustees, Sept. 25, 1736. p. 216.

——, July 10.—The Mayor excused from giving a public dinner at the next sessions; but in return to allow 20*l.* out of his salary to the city. p. 63.

——, ——. Trustees appointed to see to the application of the money given for re-building St. Peter's church. *Ibid.*

1720, Sept. 26.—A "branch of candlesticks, containing 14 in number," to be bought for 12*l.* 12*s.*, to be used in St. Mary's church.

* "Friendly advice to the Anabaptists, or a reply to Mr. Ebenezer Hall's *Antidote,*" printed at Cambridge in 1719. The sermon "of Baptism," which Hall answered, was printed in 1718, in accordance with the request above. The author, Peniston Booth, was afterwards dean of Windsor.

1720. or any other church where the lecture-service shall be, as the city may direct. p. 70.

1722[–3], Feb. 12.—Thanks given to Lord Thanet for his benefaction of 40*l.* towards the rebuilding of St. Peter's church, p. 88.

1723, Sept. 19.—600*l.* more voted for the completion of St. Peter's church. p. 92.

——, Oct. 29.—200*l.* given towards the endowment of St. Botolph's, to entitle it to the King's bounty of 200*l.* p. 94.

1724, May 26.—The seats of the mayor, aldermen and common council-men, and also those of the "aldresses" at St. Peter's church, to be lined. p. 97. To be new lined Aug. 27, 1781. p. 644. The seats in St. Mary's church to be handsomely lined with red cloth; April 17, 1736, p. 212. To be new covered, Oct. 15, 1793, p. 801.

——, July 8.—The stipend given by the city for the Master of the Free School increased from twenty nobles to twenty pounds *per an.* with 10*l.* for a house, it being found that a deserving man will not accept of it under a salary of 50*l.*, and the Dean and Chapter only allowing 20*l.* p. 98. This to be given to Mr. John Goodall, the dean and chapter having been unable to find a person duly qualified as having been educated at Westminster or Eton and of the degree of M.A. p. 100.

1725, Nov. 3.—A notice of a vacancy for two waits to be given in the *Stamford Mercury.* p. 113.

1726[–7], March 18.—An address to the King upon account of the Spaniards besieging Gibraltar and the Emperor's settling a trade at Ostend. p. 124.

1727, June 17.—Proclamation of George II. in seven places by the town-clerk, the crier repeating every sentence after him with a loud voice. p. 127.

——, Aug. 21.—Sir Thomas Saunderson, K.B., made a freeman of the city in return for his setting up iron rails and doors and stone pillars at the front of the church of St. Peter-at-Arches. p. 130.

——, Oct. 10.—A "treat" to be given on Oct. 11, the coronation-day of Geo. II., the upper and lower conduits to run wine for the corporation, and a hogshead of ale to be given to the common people. p. 133.

1728, Aug. 31.—60*l.* allowed towards the beautifying and painting the altar-piece in St. Peter's church, the trustees for the said church laying down 30*l.* more. p. 140.

——, Sept. 26.—15*l.* more allowed for the altar-piece, and a set of eight bells to be set up, the city paying such charges as cannot be raised by subscription. p. 142.

1729, Sept. 27.—Six lamps to be set up in the city. p. 152. And as many additional ones as the mayor and aldermen shall think convenient. Dec. 4. p. 155.

1729[–30], Feb. 26.—A petition to be presented to the House of Commons against hawkers, pedlers, and petty chapmen. p. 156.

1730, May 9.—The pictures of the present King and his Queen Caroline to be bought at the charge of the city and set up in the Inner Hall; and the outside of the Town Hall and the King's arms, with the figures there, to be new painted and cleansed. p. 157.

1731, May 10.—No persons not born within the city to have the freedom of the school. p. 167. 1731.

——, Nov. 20.—The use of the Town Hall and inner room granted to the gentlemen and ladies of the city for an assembly once a fortnight or oftener. p. 173.

1732, May 2.—Estimate to be prepared of the expense of making the river Wytham navigable to Boston. p. 175.

1734, Dec. 7.—The great mace to be new gilt, and a new scabbard to be had for the sword and a new hat for the sword bearer. p. 201.

1735, Nov. 24.—Agreement between the city of Lincoln, the town of Boston, and the owners of low lands, for the procuring an Act of Parliament for improving the navigation between Lincoln and Boston. p. 210.

1736, Sept. 25, Dec. 2.—Enlargement of the market place for butter, eggs, &c. adjoining St. Peter at Arches. pp. 214, 218.

——, Dec. 2.—8*l.* 8*s.* given by two persons for a clock and chimes at St. Peter's. p. 219.

——, ——.—Michael Crawthorne, one of the waits, discharged of his place for forsaking the Protestant religion of the Church of England and embracing that of the Church of Rome. p. 220.

1740, June 14.—50*l.* given towards a new steeple at St. Martin's church. p. 246.

——, Aug. 30.—Proposals of Rich. Ellison accepted for improving the navigation of Foss-dyke. p. 247.

1742, May 12, 24.—Resignation of William Gylby, esq. Recorder, by reason of his great years and illness, and election of Charles Monson, esq. pp. 264, 265.

——, Sept. 10.—Rev. Mr. Rolt lately elected master of the Grammar School in place of Rev. Mr. Goodall, who deceased on May 25. 7*l.* 10*s.* paid to Rev. Mr. Shelton, usher. pp. 266, 267.

1743, Dec. 7.
——[4], March 7.
1745, Sept. 25.
1746, May 28.
1748, Dec. 19.
} —Addresses to George II. on his return to England, on the prospect of a French invasion, on the capture of Cape Breton and the invasion by the Pretender, on the victory at Culloden (the text of this last address is not given), and again on his return to England and a general peace. pp. 278, 279, 288, 292, 311.

Addresses on April 22 and Sept. 27, 1756. pp. 365, 371. On the reduction of Louisburgh, Sept. 14, 1758, p. 391. On the reduction of Quebec, Oct. 25, 1759. p. 443.

1749, Sept. 26.—On the appointment of Rev. Will. White to the curacy of Hemswell it was ordered that the curate should preach or cause to be preached there a sermon every Sunday. p. 316.

——, Dec. 14.—A proposal in favour of voting *viva voce* instead of by ballot rejected by 22 to 16. p. 319.

——[50], Feb. 20.—Regulations for the better preservation of decency and good order at all common councils. p. 320.

1750, Dec. 11, Feb. 2, etc.—Resolutions, and petitions to Parliament, for an Act for the more speedy recovery of small debts in the city. pp. 326, 327, etc.

1751. 1751, May 13.—The Guildhall to be repaired, being much decayed. p. 328.

1752, June 6.—Proposals for establishing a manufactory of camblets and shalloons read. p. 336.

——, Sept. 27.—Request to Will. George D.D. [Dean of Lincoln] to print, at the expense of the city, his sermon preached on Sept. 18, at the meeting of subscribers to the charity schools.* p. 338.

1753, May 22.—St. Mary's wooden bridge to be rebuilt with brick and stone. p. 341.

1755, Nov. 2.—Orders for regulating the coal-trade. p. 359.

——, Dec. 30.—Proposals for a nightly watch to be maintained by subscription. p. 361.

1756, May 13.—The salary of the waits to be 42*s.* a year each instead of 30*s.*, provided they go the watch four nights in the week from Michaelmas to Lady Day. p. 366.

——, June 9.—The great Bar-gates to be pulled down. p. 367.

1757, Feb. 3.—Subscription for relief of the poor, on account of the dearness of provisions and fuel. p. 374.

——, Dec. 15.—Leave given to erect an assembly room over the market house, with card-room and tea-room. p. 384.

1758, Sept. 25.—The east side of the passage under the Stone-bow to be opened for passengers as that on the west side now is. p. 394.

1758, Nov. 8.—10*l.* 10*s.* granted towards buying communion-plate for the parish of St. Peter-at-Arches. p. 397.

1759, June 23.—Francis Bernard, esq., removed from his place of Steward of the courts of the city on account of his accepting the office of Governor of the province of New Jersey and going to reside there. p. 404.

1760, Oct. 31.—Ceremonial of the proclamation of George III. p. 423. Addresses, pp. 431, 432.

1762, March 4, Apr. 12.—Petitions against a bill in Parliament for improving the navigation between Lincoln and Boston. pp. 439, 443.

1765. Dec. 5.—The lighting of street-lamps at the expense of the city to be discontinued, except those at the new conduit and in the market house. p. 485.

1766, Oct. 28.—Twenty guineas granted to Rev. Mr. Hewthwaite, master of the Grammar School, for globes and maps, he having undertaken to teach the scholars geography gratis. p. 493.

1769, Aug. 29.—Order for taking down from houses in the High Street signs which project into the street. p. 524.

1771, Jan. 26.—A committee appointed to consider a proposal for making a navigation from Grantham to Lincoln. p. 541.

1781, Dec. 12.—Thanks given to Governor Pownall for presenting the city with his Majesty's picture in a handsome gilt frame. p. 648.

1786, March 18.—4*l.* granted in addition to 6*l.* already granted to be distributed by the minister and churchwardens of St. Peter-at-Arches among such persons as shall sing or perform upon any musical instrument in that church during divine service on the Lord's day. p. 695.

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* The sermon was printed at Lincoln in 1752 by Will. Wood.

1787, Feb. 20.—Petition against a bill in Parliament for building a bridge over the Trent at Gainsborough. p. 708. 1787.

——, Apr. 18.—The mayor to cause a proper place to be made in the Inner Hall for the reception of the books and records of the city, and to provide the new patent lamps for the Guildhall. p. 714.

1788, Feb. 9.—A petition to Parliament against the Slave Trad carried by 9 to 2. p. 725.

——, Aug. 4, and Dec. 3, 1789.—10*l.* 10*s.* subscribed towards the establishing of Sunday Schools in the city. pp. 730, 746.

1790, Feb. 6.—Proposal for an Act of Parliament for lighting the city. p. 747.

1791–2.—Various proceedings relative to navigation-plans connected with the Witham and Foss-dyke, and the town of Grantham. pp. 767, 772–3, 782, etc.

1792, May 17.—Enquiry into the causes of the decline of the Grammar School. p. 781.

——, Dec. 17.—A sum not exceeding 20*l.* towards a subscription for checking the spirit of the disaffected. p. 790.

1793, Dec. 12.—One hundred guineas subscribed towards an organ for St. Peter's church, and 12*l.* 12*s.* a year as salary for an organist. p. 804.

1794, March 1.—Twenty guineas towards the subscription for pulling down Pottergate. p. 805.

——, June 5.—300*l.* towards the internal defence of the kingdom. p. 807.

——, Dec. 22.—Forty guineas to the subscription for the poor during the present inclemency of the season. p. 814.

1796, Jan. 12.—The mayor had bought thirty pounds' worth of potatoes, fearing the price was likely to rise, in order to sell them at the original price. p. 835. Again on Dec. 26, 1799. p. 897.

——, Aug. 23.—The rector of St. Peter's is requested to take steps to prevent the ringers of the church from ringing so frequently for gentlemen coming to town and on other occasions. p. 844.

1797, Nov. 7.—Twenty guineas subscribed for the families of those who fell in the battle of Camperdown. p. 864.

1798, Feb. 14.—Five hundred guineas in aid of Government at the present crisis. p. 866.

——, March 10.—Orders for reduction of the expenditure of the corporation, to the extent of 260*l.* p. 868.

1798, Dec. 17.—5*l.* 5*s.* a year subscribed to the weekly charity schools, 10*l.* 10*s.* towards a fund for the inoculation of the poor, and 21*l.* towards relief of the families of those who fell in the battle of the Nile. p. 877.

1800, March 3.—Ten guineas "towards the erection of the naval monument to perpetuate the glorious victories of the British navy." p. 899.

June 7.—Fifty guineas towards erecting a new church in the parish of St. Swithin. p. 905.

From the beginning of this volume there are entries of the annual gifts sometimes of plate and sometimes of money, rising from 20*l.* to

1800. 50*l.*, towards the horse-races. Several addresses at various times to Geo. III. are in the latter part of the volume.

From the year 1818 the enrolments of freemen are in two folio volumes. For fifty or sixty years previously they are on rolls.

CIVIC INSIGNIA.

These ensigns of office are unusually fine and numerous. Of their making and their cost, and of their occasional repair, notices are to be found at various times in the extracts above from the Registers. They were exhibited in the year 1868 at the Art Exhibition in Leeds, and from the Catalogue by Mr. W. Chaffers the description of the first six articles in the subjoined list is mainly taken. The whole will be fully described in a forthcoming work by Mr. W. St. John Hope on the *Corporation Plate and Insignia of England and Wales.*

1. Sword, with pear-shaped pommel and cross guard, originally inlaid and damascened with gold, of the fifteenth century. Length, 3 feet 9 inches.

2. Sword with flattened circular silver pommel, engraved on both sides with the royal arms of the time of Richard II. Silver cross guard, inscribed, "JEHSUS EST AMOR MEUS. A DEO ET REGE." Red velvet scabbard, mounted in silver at a later period, inscribed "THO. KENT, MAYOR, 1685," embroidered with crown and fleur-de-lis, portcullis and thistle. Length of sword 3 feet 8½ inches. 14th cent.

3. State Sword, with silver-gilt pommel and cross guard, presented by John Kent, Mayor, 1734, bearing the hall-mark of that year, with the same mottoes as the preceding. Red velvet embroidered sheath, silver mounted. Length 4 feet 7 inches.

4. Short silver mace with cup-shaped end, with three shields of harp, fleur-de-lis, and cross; on the top the royal arms of Q. Anne, pierced border. Length 19 inches.

5. Large silver[-gilt] mace, repoussé, with the rose, fleur-de-lis, harp and thistle, and C. R. II., surmounted by a Crown; the stem chased with flowers. Length 4 feet 2 inches.

6. Silver badge and chain, worn by one of the waits, in proclaiming the fair [*etc.*], with the royal arms on one side and those of the city on the other. 1710. [This has more links, by a large number, than appear to have belonged to the waits' badges, which at most had 28 links.]

7. A red velvet cap of maintenance of the 16th century, with broad brim and crown, embroidered in silver, with the Tudor rose. But see under date of July 21, 1685, and Oct. 1, 1688.

8. A sword-bearer's hat, with tassels. 16th cent.

9. A mahogany staff. See under the year 1587.

10. A modern grand gold collar and chain of office for the mayor.

WILLIAM DUNN MACRAY.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE CORPORATION OF BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

The records of this ancient town are neither so numerous nor, for the most part, of so early a date as might be expected. But the fact that, until the dissolution of the great Benedictine Abbey, the abbots were the lords of the place will account for the loss of many records, which were likely to perish when the abbey was destroyed, while others may have passed into the possession of Sir Robert Drury and of Nicholas Bacon, who successively obtained the bailiwick of Bury, or of the family of Kitson, to which extensive grants of the abbey property were made. The earliest of the documents were until the year 1890 preserved with those belonging to the feoffees of the town charities described below, but they were then separated by authority of the corporation, and a calendar was drawn up and printed by a committee employed upon their selection. They are now preserved, together with the royal charters, municipal registers, maces, and all the miscellaneous records, in a strong fire-proof room in the Town Hall.

The rolls of abbey accounts and rentals will be seen to be of much interest, and appear to have lain unnoticed hitherto. And the ordinances for the craft of weavers in 1477 (a trade which died out in Bury centuries ago) supply some of that matter for the history of trade guilds in England which is to be found among the records of most, if not all, of our ancient towns, and which needs to be brought to light by the investigations of this Commission before that history (however much the general features of trade ordinances may be in their outline similar) can be completely written.* The orders regarding workmen and servants in 1571–5 are also noticeable.

In addition to these records I have also examined those of the charity feoffees, kept in a small chamber over the porch of the fifteenth-century Guildhall (which is distinct from the modern Town Hall) to which chamber access is gained through which was once the Minstrels' Gallery, by a strong and heavy door with several locks, requiring on the occasion of my visit the help of a smith before it would turn on its hinges. Here in an oak press containing thirty drawers (some now empty), which has superseded the use of a great iron bound ancient chest still in the chamber, are stored the title-deeds of property belonging to the charities of Bury, having amongst them some of the abbey records, as well as ancient grants, as will be seen by the description which follows. The greater part of the contents of the drawers consists, however, of leases and like documents, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

In this Guildhall, of which one half is used for the borough sessions and the other as a room for a subscription library, is also kept a valuable library belonging to the parish church of St. James. Among the books are four vellum MSS.: I. A collection of miscellaneous tracts, chiefly medical and theological, which, although its binding as one vol. is of the fifteenth century, formerly formed two volumes in the library of the abbey, marked respectively M. 27 and B. 237; II. Bede's *Hist. Eccl.*,

* Some peculiarities of spelling and phraseology are worth notice in these ordinances; and amongst them the following:—*By* is always written *be*, and *shall, xall. Withhold* is used in the sense of *holdwith, agree with*, and examples are found of the use of *aseeth* = compensation, and *aloyne* = to carry away.

early 15th cent. "Liber domus Sancti Salvatoris de Syon, ex dono M. Roberti Elyot, A.D. 1490. Orate pro anima ejus." It was given in 1595 to the library of St. James by Augustin Styward, who records that he was then 36 years old. III. Bede's Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles and the General Epistles; early 13th century. The epistles begin and end imperfectly in Romans and Hebrews. Given to St. James' library in 1639 by Thomas Steevens, headmaster of the Grammar School. IV. Cassian; 14th cent. "Liber domus fratrum in Dorsborch" [Dorsberg, near Worms?]. In the 16th cent. it belonged to one Walter Alan by the gift of Robert Ardern. A fragment from a breviary which forms a fly-leaf contains part of the office for a festival observed in Germany, but not found in books of English use, "In festo lanceæ et clavorum."

In the library of the Grammar School there is a fine folio Psalter with the offices for the dead, &c. written in the 14th cent., which is supposed to have belonged to the abbey, from its having the name of St. Edmund in red letters in the calendar, and from his name being placed next to that of St. Stephen in the list of martyrs in a litany. It was given to the school library in 1706 by one James Harvey.†

William Dunn Macray.

I.—ROYAL CHARTERS.

[For three of these charters new boxes were given by the Recorder in 1714.]

1606, 3 Apr.—Charter of incorporation granted by James I. On five sheets of vellum; the lines are numbered, and amount to 309. The impression of the great seal is very poor. The usual pen and ink portrait of the King is given in the initial letter.

The charter is printed in the Appendix to Yates's *History of the Abbey of St. Edmund's Bury*.

1608, 1 July.—Grant by James I. to the burgesses of Bury in relief of their lamentable condition caused by a late immense fire, of all the tithes and property formerly belonging to the almonry of the abbey, with the buildings called *lez Elemosiners Barnes*, alias *lez Ampners Barnes*, and also of the Gaol, the Gaolhouse and the Tolhouse and the Market Cross, and all the materials of the same, including a small bell called the Tolhouse-bell or Market-bell, with markets, fairs, &c.; at an annual crown rent of 28*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, and paying the stipends of the curates and ministers of the two parish churches, &c. On three sheets; 190 lines. Poor impression of the seal, broken. Portrait in the initial letter. Printed *ibid.*

1614, 17 Sept.—Charter of James I. establishing a coroner, justices of the peace, a court of record, &c.; and granting the churches and advowsons, representation by two burgesses in parliament, and incorporating feoffees, &c. Five sheets; 479 lines. Initial portrait. Only two small fragments of the seal. Printed *ibid.*

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† Mr. Montague R. James, M.A., fellow of King's College, Cambridge, is engaged in preparing for publication a catalogue of the library of the Abbey, and tracing such books as are still known to exist. To him I owe my knowledge of this Psalter.

1668, 5 June.—Renewal charter of Charles II. adding restrictions upon non-freemen, &c. Three sheets. Engraved portrait in the initial. Small fragment of seal.

1684, 3 July.—Charter of Charles II. re-constituting the corporation with a mayor, aldermen, &c. Three sheets, with engraved portrait, and engraved borders to each sheet. Bad impression of great seal, perfect.

II.—MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS.

1293. See under 1367, *infra*.

1295.—A long roll containing a list, made about the end of the fourteenth century, of all the lands and tenements belonging to the various officers in the abbey. It is headed, "Omnia terræ, tenementa, prata, pascua, pasturæ, molendina, grangia et columbaria subscripta, pertinent ad diversos officiarios infra monasterium Sancti Edmundi anno regni regis Edwardi primi vicesimo tercio, et sunt taxata et decimata ut patet, etc." They are arranged under the several wards, East, West, South, Rysbygate, and North, and then under the various streets in the several wards. The inventory of records printed in 1890 observes that "nearly all the streets mentioned bear the same names as at the present time; one exception is Angel-hill, which was then known as *Mustowe*." The names of the various tenants are given, but the rents are not specified. The possessions of the Hospitals of St. Peter and St. Nicholas are also enrolled. And then follows the "Taxatio "domini Regis Edwardi primi" assessed upon the property of the various officers.

1299—1538.—Seven Sacrist rolls of the abbey:—

1299.—"Computus fratris Joh. de Snaylwell, sacr. Sancti Edmundi, a festo M[ichaelis] anno r. r. E. xxvii usque in crastino [*sic*] Palm. anno r. r. E. supradicto." Endorsed as being an account "in parte" for 27 Edw. The sum total of receipts is 184*l.* 14*s.* $10\frac{1}{4}d.$, and of expenses 203*l.* 11*s.* $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ The latter include 33*s.* 4*d.* given to the poor on three principal feasts and 30*s.* on Maundy Thursday. The last entry in the account is this: "Comp. lib. magistris Oxon. pro decima decime xl^{s} x^{d} qua. Item eisdem pro vestiar. xii^{d}. Item eisdem pro incepcione eorundem anno preterito omisso c^{s}."

1357.—Account of Simon de Langham, from Annunc. to Mich. 31 Edw. III. Amongst the "profectus ecclesiarum" are these entries, which occur also in the preceding roll, but are not there so fully expressed, "De oblacionibus ad nigram crucem, iiij^{li} xxi^{d}. De pixide sancte Sythe, xii^{li} xix^{s} vi^{d} ob. qua. De pixide sancte Petronille, ij^{s} iiij^{d}." Receipts are entered "de charnepeny" (in the preceding account, "scharnepeny") "de landmol" (afterwards "landmool") and from reliefs "cum hadgovel" (afterwards "hadgavel,"). The expenses include gifts to servants of the King and Prince, and to others. Sum of receipts, 212*l.* 3*s.* $4\frac{1}{2}d.$; of expenses, 260*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

1369–70.—Account of John de Lavenham, Mich. 43 Edw. III. —Mich. 44. The names of the chapels are given separately under the "profectus ecclesiarum": St. John "ad fontem," St. John "ad montem," St. Laurence, St. Margaret, and St. Nicholas. The chest of St. Petronilla continues to be as little productive in com-

parison of that of St. Syth as in both the preceding accounts; elevenpence against 4*l.* 10*s.* In addition to offerings at the Black Cross there are now offerings "ad hostium cripti ad imaginem sancte Marie," "de nova cruce ad hostium *Raketey*," and "de magna cruce." The vineyard is returned as producing nothing, which is the case also in other years. To the shrine of St. Edmund 748 lbs. of wax were devoted, 220 lbs. to the candlesticks before the high altar, 98 lbs. "in les voutys" (the galleries or *triforia*), 36 lbs. in the refectory. The chapels lighted were those of St. Andrew, St. James, St. Botulph, and St. Mary; nothing was expended on lights in those of St. Giles and St. Mary Magd Under the head of *Feoda* there is, "Item, forthdrove et Wasseil, ij^{s}." The names of all the officers, servants, and workmen, receiving gowns (many of them furred) are given. "In cerevisia empta pro le O vj^{s}. Item, solut. Henrico de Lakingheth pro le O vj^{li}." In 1299 there is an entry for the "Oo," and in the account for 1401–2 there are similar entries running thus, "pro cerevisia de le Oo sacriste: sol domino priori pro le Oo," while in that for 1418 it is "pro le Oo per adventum." It seems therefore that these entries refer to extra allowances or "pitantiæ," given on the seven days before Christmas, the days of the Advent antiphons. See *infra* under 1537–8. The expenses of the sacrist for two journeys to London are given, the first accompanied by twelve months, the second by six, "pro ordinibus," *i.e.*, for ordinations. Among gifts to the poor are ten shillings "pro anima fratris Johannis de Grafton," and among general gifts, "tribus scolaribus Oxon. x^{s}." Allowances to scholars at Oxford, not at Cambridge, are also found in the subsequent accounts. The sum of receipts is 387*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*; of expenditure, 402*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*

1401–2, 3 Hen. IV.—Account of Robert de Ikelyngham. The "Raketey" of the last roll is now "Rakenteyn;" the great cross is said to be "in corpore ecclesie;" there is a chapel "de le Charnel" (the site of which is now marked in the centre of the present churchyard); a "nova imago" of St. Mary near the Black cross, and a chapel of St. Andrew in the infirmary. "In furthedrove et Wosshayle ad Nat. [Domini], ij^{s}." "In expensis domini episcopi Aladen. et al. pro ordin. fac. ix^{s}," *i.e.*, for holding an ordination; there was also an additional payment of apparently ten shillings to the same bishop and his servants. This was one of the many Irish bishops who are perpetually met with as suffragans in England, Thomas, bishop of Killala.

1418, 5–6 Hen. V.—Account of William Barwe. Two additional alms-chests are mentioned, those of St. Katherine and of abbot Baldwin. The account of wine bought is entered more specifically than in the preceding accounts, as seven pipes of red wine, and four "de antiquo folio" which cost three pounds each. The red wine varies from 52*s.* the pipe to 3*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* A bell called *Clopton* is repaired. For the soul of abbot William Cratfeld 12*l.* are laid out, and 10*s.* distributed to the poor for the soul of *dom.* Richard Tymworth. Twelve pence were given to the boy-bishop, "episcopo sancti Nicholai," and rewards to minstrels at Christmas and the feast of St. Edmund. Two of the brethren preached in the churchyard during Lent. There are expenses for a law-suit with the town in reference, in some way not specified, to the sacrist's account. Receipts, 358*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*; expenses, 520*l.* 6*s.* 2½*d.*!

1429–30.—Account of John Cranewys, 8 Hen. VI. "pro parte." There is a remarkable diminution in the receipts from charitable offerings; the returns from the chapel of St. Nicholas, from oblations at Pentecost, at the image of St. Mary by the crypt-door, at the new cross in the body of the church, at the various alms-chests at the churches, and even at the high altar, are all "Nil"! Two shillings and eightpence were gained from the vineyard. Two mortuaries, amounting to 46*s.* 8*d.*, were received for two strangers who died in the town. Rents in the town were reduced to the amount of 11*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* Twenty shillings were given to the poor on the days of the burial of W. Tymworth and J. Dagworth. Under the head of *Dona data* we have the rewards to the boy-bishop of St. Nicholas and to minstrels on St. Edmund's day, and the following:—"Magistro Thome Mapyltone, lathomo domini Regis, venienti de London ad supervidendum magnum campanile et ad dandum consilium super reparacione ejusdem hoc anno, xxvi^{s} viii^{d}. Item, dat. alio lathomi venienti cum eodem, causa predicta, vi^{s} viij^{d}. Item, dat. famulis eorundem, iij^{s} iiij^{d}. Item, dat. dompne Willelmo Boxfford equitanti versus London. ad ordinem sacerdotalem recipiendum hoc anno, vj^{s} viij^{d}. Item, dat. episcopi Imiliensi [Robert Windele, bishop of Emly*] conferenti ordinem W. Derham et J. Harlowe in villa de Bury, xiii^{s} iiij^{d}. Item, dat. clero ejusdem, xx^{d}." For a horse taking one scholar to Oxford, 3*s.* 4*d.* Receipts, 338*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*; expenses, 405*l.* 0*s.* 11¾*d.*

1537–8.—Account of Edward Rowgham, Mich. 29 Hen. VIII. —Mich. 29. On paper.

The chapel of St. Laurence is the only one from which anything is received, and the oblations at crosses and altars entirely disappear. Among expenses those for the Os cease; "Item, pro le O in Adventu, nil." "In supplementum trium scolasticorum [Oxon.] vi^{s}." "Expensæ in Quadragesima: Dat. diversis concionatoribus in Quadragesima et eorum famulis, xlii^{s} viii^{d}. Item, pro aliis expensis, ut in ficubus, amigdolis, raceniis, pomis, pane, et servicia, et aliis, xxvi^{s} x^{d} ob." Under the head of "Distribucio pauperum," besides usual 80 shillings, we have, "Item, dat. sororibus de banco in Circumcisione Domini, ii^{s}. Item, distribut. in pane pro animabus d. Rob. Poleye, d. Nicholai Hallesworth, et d. Willelmi Bury, xxx^{s}." The boy-bishop now appears thus, "Dat. in honorem sancti Nicholai, xii^{d}"; followed by, "Item, regiis mimis et aliis, diversis temporibus, vi^{s}." Receipts, 330*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*; expenses, 332*l.* 16*s.* 1¼*d.*

1304, 14 Dec.—Long roll of pleadings (nine membranes) at Bury on the morrow of St. Lucy, 33 Edw. I., before the justices Will. de Berford, Will. Howard, and Will. de Carletone, in pursuance of letters patent from the King, dated at Morpat, 29 Aug., between the Abbot and Nich. Fuk, with sixty-one other townsmen of Bury, (all whose names are given,) with reference to alleged invasion of the rights of the abbot and his officers with regard to jurisdiction within the town. The townsmen resisted the collection by the abbot's bailiff's of fines and dues, "ac quasdam corruptelas et ordinaciones legi et consuetudini regni Regis ac libertatibus dicti abbatis sibi per cartas progenitorum Regis concessis contrarias in eadem villa proprio motu statuerunt observandas, ac diversa tallagia super pauperibus tenentibus ipsius

* He appears to have been one of four bishops nominated to Emly between 1422–1431, and acted as suffragan of Norwich from 1424 onwards. He was a Franciscan. [Cotton's *Fasti Eccl. Hib.* I. sec. edit. 89, V. 15].

abbatis de eadem villa pluries pro voluntate sua assiderunt, et tallagia illa per graves districtiones ab eisdem extorserunt." Also, on the Monday next after the Nativity of B. Mary in the 30th year of the King, Nich. Fuk with his fellow-conspirators "ordinaverunt et statuerunt quod nullus maneret inter eos in dicta villa habens catalla ad valenciam xx^{s} quin eis solveret duos solidos et unum denarium, quam quidam solucionem vocant inter se *Hantsingsilver*," and that any one having chattels to the value of ten marks should pay 46*s.* 8*d.*; and these sums they extorted from various persons whose names are given. Also that no one should remain beyond a year and a day in the town without being by oath to observe their conventicles and ordinances. Also at the same time they appointed bailiffs of their own, and summoned persons to appear before them for trial of causes; and usurped the wardship of minors and orphans; of which instances are given which occurred on the Tuesday after the f. of St. Dunstan in the 32nd year of the King. In the same year, on the morrow of the Assumption of B. Mary, they appointed gate-keepers for the several gates of the town. And at various other times in the years 30–32 of the King, they hindered the abbot's bailiffs from levying amercements and making distraints, resisting them "vi et armis, scilicet, gladiis, arcubus et sagittis" (*sattitis*, MS.!), and imposed tallages of their own on the abbot's tenants. They made also this ordinance, "quod si quis de confederacione predictorum Nicholai et aliorum vendiderit tenementum suum, si ille qui propinquior sit in sanguine venditoris venerit postmodum ad proximam Portmannotum, et velit restituere emptori quantum pro illo tenemento dederit, amovebitur ille emptor et tenementum liberetur petenti. Statuerunt eciam quod si quis accionem habuerit petendi tenementum in dicta villa, nisi illud infra annum et diem venerit et petierit, per non clamium ab accione exclusus erit; et similiter quod uxor de tenementis que sunt jus suum et hereditate[m] sua[m], per virum suum alienatis, post mortem viri sui excludatur petendo eadem tenementa seu recuperando imperpetuum." They imposed charges varying from 5*s.* yearly to a halfpenny per week upon thirty-five persons, whose names are recited, who were the abbot's men. "Lapides et grossas petras super ecclesiam et domos dicte abbatie ad infringendum et onerandum tecturam et cooperturam ecclesie sue et domorum maliciose projecerunt, et homines supradictos domos cooperientes gratis lapidaverunt, et per sic eos ab opere suo sepius impediverunt, ac homines, monachos, servientes et nuntios ipsius abbatis in negotiis suis missos per dictam villam transeuntes verberaverunt, et male tractaverunt, per quod idem abbas servientium eorum ea racione pluries (*sic*) amisit." By all which things the abbot says that he is damnified to the value of 2,000*l.* And Nicholas Fuk and the remainder of the defendants deny in general all the charges of conspiracy and molestation and interference with the abbot's rights; but with regard to the tax levied on residents and the imposing an oath to observe the ordinances, they say "quod ipsi habent Aldermannum et Guildam mercatorum in villa predicta, et sunt liberi Burgenses, et reddunt judicia per Aldermannum de placitis in curia ipsius Abbatis, coram ballivis ejusdem in predicta villa placitarum, et quod ipsi absque aliquibus conventiculis illicitis convenerunt ad Gildaulam suam quotiens opus fuerit ad tractandum de communi proficuo et utilitate hominum et Burgensium predicte ville sicut eis bene licet. Et quod ipsi et antecessores eorum et predecessores Burgensium, etc., tali consuetudine usi sunt a tempore cujus non exstat memoria, scil. capiendi de quolibet homine manente

in predicta villa, existente in decenna abbatis loci predicti, habente catalla ad valenciam xxii^{s}, i^{d}, per sic quod mercare possit inter eos et eorum consuetudinibus mercatorum gaudere in eadem villa; et similiter percipiendi xlvi^{s} viii^{d} de quolibet homine ville predicte habente catalla ad valenciam x marcarum ad suam mercatum tenendum, et quod talis est ipsorum super hoc consuetudo, scil. quod xii Burgenses de villa predicta eligere consueverunt quatuor homines ejusdem ville annuatim ad Gildam suam mercatoriam tenendum, quorum quilibet habeat catalla ad valenciam x marcarum, qui quidem quatuor homines sic electi premuniri consueverunt per duos Burgenses de Gilda predicta qui dicuntur *les dies* ad Gildam suam predictam tenendum, [et] iidem quatuor homines sic electi plegios invenire consueverunt coram Aldermanno et Burgensibus in Gilda aula predicta ad tenendum Gildam predictam, vel quod quilibet eorum solveret xl^{s} viii^{d} qui Gildam illam tenere recusaret. Et ad hoc faciendum consueverunt Aldermannus et Burgenses in villa predicta distringere singulos homines manentes in eadem villa habentes catalla ad valenciam x marc. inter eos mercari volentes et eorum consuetudinibus mercatoriis uti et gaudere." To the charge respecting wardships they say they are not bound to reply, because the abbot has varied the form of the complaint in the writ and in the *narratio*. As to their usurping the custody of the gates they say that for twenty years previous to the date alleged they have been seised of that custody. With regard to their refusing to pay toll ("theoloneum"), all persons born in the town and living there and holding tenements have been accustomed from time immemorial to be free from toll on paying two farthings, which rent is called *Hadgovel*. The corruptions and customs alleged to be contrary to the realm are their old customs always used by their ancestors in the court of the abbot, and they have not by any conspiracy made any new ones. Short rejoinders from the abbot follow. The jury consists of Thomas de Bavent, Robert de Barsham, Roger le Sturmyn, Peter de Mellis, Robert de Stanham, Knts., Thomas de Mikelfeld, William de Hoo, John de Durefthерd, Robert Martin, Nicholas de Glannvile, John de Preston, and John de Hotebovile; who say that Nicholes Fuk and the rest are not guilty of any conspiracy and have not usurped the cognizance of any pleas, or taken amercements, or appointed bailiffs; but that they have often hindered the abbot's bailiff in regard of the assize of bread and beer and forestallings, &c., and have levied tallages upon poor tenants against the will of the abbot and executed distraints, and by force and arms have made rescues from the abbot's distraints, and although they are ignorant of the names of the particular doers, these things were done by the maintenance of Nicholas Fuk and the rest; "et quod quidam de villa predictae, quorum nomina ignorant sibi, per assensum et manutenenciam predictorum Nicholai et omnium aliorum, tractaverunt cum arcubus ad lapides (*sic*) in operarios ipsius abbatis in cooperiendo domos et edificia ecclesie ipsius abbatis predicte, sicut idem abbas queritur, sed dicunt monachos ipsius abbatis non verberaverunt nec male tractaverunt; dicunt tamen quod predictus Robertus filius Nicholai Fuk verberavit vulneravit et male tractavit quendam nuncium ipsius abbatis in villa predicta de facto suo proprio, et non per manutenenciam vel assensum predictorum Nicholai et aliorum." And they assess the damages at 200*l*. The decision of the case was then carried up to Westminster before the King's Council, for hearing of the abbot's denial of the alleged customs; and again brought back to Bury for the ascertaining by a jury the names of those found guilty as above, who are specified

to the number of forty-two. Further pleadings ensued as to questions of right, and the towns-people produce the record of an agreement made on the Thursday after Mid-Lent Sunday 21 Edw. I. [1293] before the judges, by which the right of choosing the alderman, on license from the abbot first obtained, was granted to the town, a right previously disclaimed together with the custody of the gates before William de Valence and John de Warrenne, Earl of Surrey, in the time of Henry III. Orders are issued for levying the damages by distraint, and for arrest of defaulters; and the roll ends with a writ from the King (without date) enjoining the alderman on election to be presented to the abbot for admission, and to swear upon the high altar of St. Edmund to preserve all the rights of the abbey from infringement, &c., and with the sentence of the judges against the claim of the town to wardships and the right of levying the merchant-tax, and reserving the custody of the gates to the abbey.

The case is noticed in Yates' *Hist. of Bury*, p. 128.

1316.—Copy made in the 17th cent. from f. 26 of the book entitled *Nomina Villarum* in the Exchequer, of the return made by the Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk to the writ dated at Clifton, 5 March, 9 Edw. II. for the names of the cities, towns and villages in each hundred, with their lords, so far as relates to the hundreds of Balberge, Corsford, Thinghowe, Risebrege, Thewardistre, Blakeburne, and Lackford.

1341, 12 March, 15 Edw. [III.], Angl. 2 Fran. At Westm.—Letters patent granting that, whereas the charters granted to the abbot and convent provide that no secular person or minister of the King shall enter the borough besides them and their ministers, by reason whereof no justices have ever held any pleas, but the King has now commissioned justices to try cases of oppression and extortion, &c., committed by his officers and others in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Herts, and these justices have held a session at Bury, nevertheless, out of the affection the King bears to the glorious martyr the blessed Edmund, whose body lies in the abbey, this session of the justices or any process by them there made shall not hereafter be any prejudice to the abbey, or be drawn into a precedent. Seal lost.

1349, 29 Sept., f. of St. Mich., 23 Edw. III.—Acknowledgment by William [de Bernham], abbot of Bury, of the receipt of fifty marks from Richard de Drayton, Ralph le Bochier, and others of the town of St. Edmund, in full payment of 2,000 marks agreed to be paid to Richard de Draughton, the late abbot, and his successors, in yearly payments of 100 marks for twenty years, as appears by a record in Chancery. Small fragment of green seal.

1353–1439.—Five rolls of accounts of St. Saviour's Hospital, largely of agricultural produce and expenses.

1353, Mich.–1354, Mich. Robert Cottone, "claviger." Total receipts, 39*l.* 9*s.* 11½*d.*; expenses, 39*l.* 19*s.* 6¾*d.* Mention occurs of a garden called "le Duffuszerd."

1374–5.—Nicholas de Banham, "claviger," in the time of brother Nicholas de Snytterton, hospitaler. Among the receipts are oblations "de pixide," 2*s.* 9*d.* Rents appear in this account. The stipend of the *claviger* is one mark. "In stipendio capellanorum nihil, quia in compoto domini." Mention occurs of "le vynezerd." A deficiency of 38*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* was made up "de cofris

domini, de quibus dominus habebit allocacionem in compoto suo proprio, quia ipse satisfecit omnibus tangentibus ipsum compotum."

1385–6.—Brother Walter de Totyngtone, hospitaler. Oblations, 2*s.* 5*d.* Receipts, 104*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* Expenses, 185*l.* 5*s.* 10¾*d.* Nicholas Banham is still claviger. "In stipendio Willelmi Palfreyman xij^{s} x^{d}, et non plus, quia sibi donata pro amore hospitalarii eidem extendunt per tempus hujus compoti ad xii^{s}. In tunica sua cum linura v^{s} vi^{d}. In roba cum furrura hoc anno data Willelmo atte Lee, quia multa bona procurans, et semper excusans nimiam absenciam W. hospitalarii per moram factam London. pro negociis ecclesie, xvij^{s} viij^{d}, unde in furrura ij^{s}. Item in roba Willelmi Rys, quia amicus ecclesie etc., causa supra, xvij^{s} viij^{d} unde in furrura ij^{s}." John Kyrkestede is rewarded in the same way for the same reason. "In liberacione T. Hasteley nihil computatur quia pro singulari amore persone sue [*sic*]. Item in panno albo dato confessori domine die novi anni vij^{s} causa supra." "Stipendia sacerdotum; Item in salariis domini Johannis de Alcunby, domini Johannis Lomb, et domini Johannis Baroun, vi^{li}, cuilibet eorum xl^{s}." There follows a further account by Totyngton, "de hiis que non concernunt compotum officii sui, anno qua supra," in which while the receipts are 13*s* 4d. the expenses are 151*l.* 17*s.* 2¾*d.* Under the head of "Elemosina" are noted 25^{s} spent in necessaries for five clerks at the Hospital; 20^{d} to a poor man to buy seed for his land; 20^{s} to the fabric of the church at Melford; "in expensis factis London. circa Johannem Mykelwode addiscentem scribere cum Keteryngham, xl^{s}, viz. in mensa, in lecto, in necessariis pro corpore suo, et stipendio magistri sui, per compotum Johannis de Botlysham, attornati hospitalarii in hac parte." Under the head of "Dona," "Item in dono tribus clericis domine Norff. venientis illuc pro honore et solacio parochianorum apud Melford, in iii. paribus caligarum de sanguin, iij^{s} ix^{d}, prec. par. xv^{d}. Item, in dono Johanni Allertone, quando missus per dominam comitissam Norff. fuit presens in sessione pacis in theloneo per ministros domini abbatis, ne rebellio etc. xiij^{s} iiij^{d}. In dono famulo suo xx^{d}." At the visitation of the convent on St. Saviour's day each professed monk had 6^{d} and the prior 12^{d}.

1386–7.—The same hospitaler. Oblations, 2*s.* 9*d.* Receipts, 106*l.* 2*s.* 9½*d*; Expenses, 234*l.* 3*s.* 6¾*d.* The priests are John Alcunby, John Lomb, John Baroun, and William Chapman. Among ornaments for the chapel of St. Thomas are a "silver-box" placed beneath the feet of his image, 12^{d}, and a base bought of Simon, the abbey mason, for the image to stand on "ad dextrum cornu altaris," 5^{s}. "In iij libris rubiis cum servicio sancti Thome tam de passione quam de translacione, xiij^{s} iiij^{d}. Item in apparatu altaris in dicta capella, viz. in uno Reredeos, uno selure, i frontell, ij curtynes, ij auterclothes, ii corporasz, ij towayl, ij pilweres rebaned, l^{s}. In majori campana empta pro campanili x^{s}." "In expensis W. Heynes querentis unum portiforium apud Wrabbenase, valoris xl^{s}, quod defuit per triginta annos et amplius, eundo et redeundo, viij^{d}. In xij boulys emptis pro recreacione sacerdotum, x^{d}." Six pence were paid to John Homb for his expenses in going to Clare to get a doctor in theology to preach on St. Thomas' day, then to Sudbury for tiles for the pavement of St. Thomas' chapel, and then to Melford.

The day of SS. Fabian and Sebastian was observed with feasting. A supplementary account (as before) shows further expenses to the amount of 155*l.* 17*s.* 10¾*d.* Among these is a horse bought of *dom.* Thomas Pope for 46*s.* 8*d.* which is noted as being "in perditione, per delusionem predicti Thome Pope." Among gifts are payments to the minstrels of the Countess of Norfolk and those of the Earl Marshal; to a suffragan bishop "pro labore suo," and his chaplain and valet; to a valet bringing 24 rabbits from Sir John Eyr; to a preaching friar who came from Oxford; and "magistro J. Bromptone pro labore suo circa rotulum villanorum, in panno de scarlet empto de Egidio atte Pyrie, vj^{s} viij^{d}."

1438–9.—Adam Babyngton, bailiff. Receipts, 23*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*; Expenses, 21*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* This is only the account of the farm-bailiff, and not of the hospitaler.

1364, 2 Nov. 38 Edw. III. At Westm.—Letters patent, granted at the request of the burgesses, confirming the exemption from all tolls and customs at markets and fairs contained in the charter of Hen. [III.] to the abbey and convent and burgesses of St. Edmund. Great seal in white wax, perfect except in a portion of the legend.

1367, 24 Oct. 41 Edw. III. At Westm.—Exemplification, at the request of the burgesses, of process at Bury [in 1292–3] in pursuance of writs from Edw. I. dated at Westm., Friday after Exalt. of H. Cross *an.* 20, and at Wellebek 17 Feb. *an.* 21, for trial of dispute between the abbey and the town respecting the appointment of alderman and the keeping of four gates, together with other complaints with relation to the assize of bread and beer, interference with traders, opposition to the abbot's authority in cases of assault and violence, and to the burgesses' not permitting his bailiffs "amovere fimaria extra villam ad nocumentum plebis jacencia et corrupcionem corporum et impedimentum transeuncium," &c. The following were the jury: Stephen de Hauekedone, Robert le Fraunceys, Ralph de la Kersunere, Simon le Wilde, Walter de Clopton, Richard de Saxham, Sampson de Batesford, William de Rugham, Hervey Gorge, Robert le Engynur, John de Hunstertone, and William de Thelintham. It ends with an agreement with regard to the main point of dispute, that John de Orfeuere who had been elected alderman shall renounce his election; that the person elected shall be presented to the abbot who shall admit him, unless he can show reasonable and manifest cause to the contrary; on admission he shall be sworn at the high altar of St. Edmund to preserve the rights of the abbey; that keepers of four gates shall be chosen by the burgesses and admitted by the sacrist or his bailiffs at le Tolhus, and the custody of the fifth or east gate to remain with the abbey and convent. Hereupon, licence being first obtained from the abbot, John le Orfeuere was unanimously re-elected alderman, and was admitted by the abbot. A large portion of the great seal, in green wax, remains. This process is frequently referred to in the trial in 1304, *supra.*

1370. *See under* 1401.

1385, 9 Apr., *an.* 8. At Westm.—General pardon from Richard II. to Thomas Halesworth, [alderman] of Bury for all insurrections, treasons and offences committed by him or anyone of the persons of the town before 22 Dec. *an.* 6 [1382]; as also release from all sums of money due from him or his predecessors for which he or they are bound in the Chancery; excepting that he and others are to contribute their due quota in payment of a fine of 2,000 marks. The introductory clause is as follows:—"Omnibus ballivis et fidelibus suis ad quos presentes litere

pervenerint, salutem. Sciatis quod cum omnes homines ville de Bury ab omni gracia perdonacionum et remissionum in parliamentis nostris annis regni nostri quinto et sexto aliis ligeis nostris dicti regni nostri per nos factarum, quampluribus enormibus delictis suis causantibus, privati fuissent et excepti, ac postmodum ad supplicacionem quorundam Magnatum nobis assistencium, et pro eo quod certi homines ejusdem ville tam pro seipsis quam pro singulis aliis personis predicte ville vicinis suis gratie nostre in omnibus se humiliter submiserunt, ipsique homines pro seipsis et singulis vicinis suis predictis ut ad graciam nostram admitti possent quendam finem duarum milium marcarum cum consilio nostro, ... pretextu finis predicti, ad instanciam predictorum Magnatum, de benignitate nostra regia ipsos ad hujusmodi graciam nostram duxerimus acceptandos ; Nos ea consideracione perdonavimus et remisimus Thome Halesworthe de Bury sectam pacis nostre," &c.

The larger portion of the great seal remains in white wax. The town had incurred heavy penalties on account of the excesses committed there by the rioters under Jack Straw in 1381, when Chief Justice Cavendish was beheaded by them in the market-place, and the prior of the abbey was also murdered.

1387, 20 Apr. *an.* 10. At Westm.—Renewal by Rich. II. of the preceding pardon, at the supplication of the abbot and convent, adding the particulars that Thomas Halesworth of St. Edmund, otherwise called Thomas Halesworth, "Squier," was excepted from pardon by Parliament, among the persons of Bury, as one of the principal of those who were in insurrection in the county of Suffolk, and that twenty persons submitted themselves and were bound for themselves and others to a fine of 2,000 marks, and that pardon had been promised to each of these and to all others who should severally for themselves apply for it. Seal, in white wax, nearly perfect.

1390, 20 Feb., *an.* 13. At Westm.—"T[este] J. Cassy."—Letters patent of Richard II. exemplifying a process in the Exchequer in Nov. 1389, releasing the town from the balance due of the fine of 2,000 marks ; reciting several writs ; 1, of 5 Feb. *an.* 8, by which Roger Rose, alderman, Edmund FitzLucas, James Marham, John Osebern, Thomas Fornham, Adam Waterward, Thomas Ewelle, John Gollere, Thomas Godard, Geoffrey Wolleman, Henry Wrotham, Thomas Bernyngham, Richard White, Thomas Lacford, Alan de Denham, William Chevele, Thomas atte Perye, John Rery, John Calf, John Berard, Richard Rougham, Stephen Belman, William Thetford, and Walter Lucas, all of Bury, were appointed to assess and levy the fine, many persons having refused to pay the sums charged upon them ; 2, of 16 Nov. *an.* 9, to the barons of the Exchequer to summon Robert de Kedyngton and John Overton, the bailiffs, Robert de Bekerton, serjeant-at-arms, Thomas de Ikworth, and William Hore, who had been appointed to supply information as to the condition and means of the various persons assessed and to appear with the assessment rolls, and also John Broghton, tailor, John Hanle, William de Draghton, John Berard, Edward Honton and Thomas Halesworth, appointed deputy collectors, to appear before them to give account of the sums collected ; reciting further that the said persons appeared at the Exchequer, and rendered their accounts, producing also at the same time a writ, dated 6 July *an.* 13, to the Exchequer, ordering discharge from further account on the ground that the proceedings were represented to be contrary to the charters of liberties granted to the abbey, directing that the assessment should be made by the officers of the abbey, and granting 500 marks of the balance to the prior (the abbacy being vacant) in relief of the abbey,

which is greatly depressed by injuries on the part of the townsmen; reciting further that the persons summoned are discharged from all further process, the sum of 1,000*l.* having been paid to the King by three several tallages, and the balance of 500 marks being granted to the abbey. Fragment of the Exchequer seal.

.....—Copy (early in the fifteenth century, on a long roll of eight membranes) of an *Inspeximus* charter [of Henry IV?]; reciting and confirming the following charters:—

A. Richard II., 24 Nov. *an.* 7 [1383], at Westm., being *Inspeximus* of
1. Edw. I., at Fyndon, 19 June, *an.* 33 [1305], granting that the abbey may hold at Henhowe the pleas arising in the eight hundreds and half which are in its liberty.

And also *Inspeximus* of
2. Edw. III., confirming
3. Edw. II. of 22 July *an.* 4 [1310] at Wodestok, confirming the following series:
   i. Canute, with the English version. Printed in Kemble's *Codex Dipl.* iv. 15, 17.
   ii. Five charters of Edw. Conf. in English, as follows:—
      a. Confirming charters of Canute and Hardicanute. Printed in Kemble's *Codex Dipl.* iv. 231.
      b. Granting the half hundred. *Ibid.* iv. 222.
      c. Granting exemption from taxes. *Ibid.* iv. 224.
      d. Granting a mint to abbot Baldwin. *Ibid.* iv. 223.
      e. Granting Mildenhale to the abbey. *Ibid.* iv. 194.
   iii. Richard I., 21 Sept. *an.* 1 [1189]. At Westm.
   iv. Edw. I., 16 Nov. *an.* 9 [1281]. At Westm. confirming—
      a. Charter of Hen. I. *n.d.* At Westm.
      b. Charter of John, 15 March *an.* 1 [1200]. At Silveston.
   v. Edw. I., 10 Feb. *an.* 10 [1282]. At Claryndon.
4. Edw. III., 13 Sept. *an.* 4 [1330]. At Nottingham.
5. Edw. III. 4 May, *an.* 10 [1336]. At Westm.
6. Edw. III. 24 May, *an.* 26 [1352]. At Westm.
7. Edw. III. 4 June, *an.* 27 [1353]. At Westm.

B. Hen. [I. ?] at Falaise, *n.d.* witness Al. de Ver.

C. John, 20 July *an.* 17 [1215]. At Oxford.

D. Richard II., 12 Apr. *an.* ii. [1379]. At Westm.

The conclusion of the original confirmation charter is not given, and its date therefore does not appear, nor is the name of the King who grants it given at the beginning.

1408, 10 Jan., 9 Hen. IV.—Indenture by which Thomas Halysworthe, alderman of the town, agrees on behalf of the town to accept five shillings from John Wollebetere as the annual rent for a tenement in le Cornmarket for which ten shillings has been formerly paid. Twenty-three seals are attached, bearing initials, merchants' marks, and other devices, of the following witnesses: Adam Watirward, Richard Rougham, John Osbern, Giles Pirye, Roger Framptone, and John Notyngham, formerly aldermen, Geoffrey Baret, William Methewold, John Launey, John Toft, John Drenkestone, Richard Baxstere, Walter Draweswerd, Roger Lystere, Geoffrey Salle, Edward Houtone, Richard Iremongere, Adam Baxstere, Thomas Ferour, William Ampe, chaundeler, Walter Cook, Michael Lalleford, John Regges, John Broughtone, and John Haule, burgesses. The two counter-parts of the indenture are preserved.

1424, 1 Dec. *an.* 4. At Westm.—Two skins of an *Inspeximus* charter granted by [Hen. VI.] to the abbey, wanting the first one or two skins. The portion remaining contains an exemplification of a charter of Hen. V. granted 1 Dec. 1414, in which are recitals of

i. Charter of Rich. II., 24 Nov. *an.* 7 [1383], reciting
   a. Edw. III. 13 Sept. *an.* 4 [1330]. At Nottingham.
   b. —— 24 May, *an.* 26 [1352]. At Westm.
   c. —— 4 June, *an.* 27 [1353]. At Westm.

ii. John, 20 July, *an.* 17 [1215]. At Oxford.

iii. Rich. II. 6 Aug. *an.* 20 [1396]. At Dover.

1447, 13 Nov. *an.* 26. At Westm.—Letters of Hen. VI. ordering that the charter of privileges granted to the abbey by Henry I. be observed, namely that it should enjoy the privileges granted by Canute and Edward [the Confessor], that no secular officer should enter the borough except by consent of the abbot and convent, that they and the burgesses should be free from all tolls and customs at markets and fairs, and their domains free from all scots, gelds and aids. Fragment of great seal, in white wax.

1469.—See under 1556, *infra*.

1477, 8 June.—Ordinances for the reformation of abuses in the craft of the weavers; on two membranes.

"This indenture made the viiith day of June in the xviith yeere of the reigne of Kyng Edward the iiiith between Thomas Heigham and William Helperby, bayliffes of the right reverent fader in God thabbot of Bury Seynt Edmund of the toune of Bury Seynt Edmund, on the one partie, and John Ivy, Edmund Baker, Regnold Chardro, John Dyllewyne, John Mey, Thomas Langham, Thomas Page, Richard Stokes, Thomas Carletone, John Mace, Robert Langham, Robert Spark, John Mey the yongger, Robert Parmenter, Richard Syward, John Fystone, Edmund Goodale, Edmund Oklie, John Langham, Richard Grene, William Cole, John Lombe, Thomas Drawswerd, Thomas Senowe, John Honell, Clement Glokke, Hue Ravyshy, Henry Longge, and John Parmenter, of Bury aforsayd, wulvene and lynene veweres, on the othere partie, wythnesseth. Forasmoche as many persones and greate multytude of people as weell of menne as womenne and childrenne withinne the toune of Bury Seynt Edmund bee dayly gretly occupyed be the mene of the crafte of wevers, wewyng all manor of wulvene and lynene cloethe, to the greate avayle and profyth as weell of the sayd toune as the contre adyoynyng and the inhabitants of the same, and most specyally to the syngler increse profyth and avauntage of the ocupiers of the seyd crafte of pleyne wewyng bothe wulvene and lynene, wiche, be the deceyvable and untrewe werkyng and wewyng of some persones vsyng the seyd crafte, ys greateley discresyd, apeyred and decayed, and dayly discreseth apeyreth and decayeth, to the greate displesure of Almyghty God, and greate hurte henderyng and losse of alle the inhabitants of the seyd toune and cuntre, and be lyklynesse to the vtter distruccione of the occupiers of the seyd crafte lesse thanne convenyent ordinaunces and bylawez be made ordeyned and prowyded for reformacione of such subtylytes untrewthes and deceytes as be some persones be vsyd in the seyd crafte; Wherfore alle the ocupiers of the seyd crafte withinne the seyd toune of Bury, by one assent prayin and in the weye of charyte hertely besechen the Secristene of the monastery of Bury aforesayd, lord of the seyd toune, that certeyne provysyouns bylawes and ordinaunces may be maad, to the plasiere of God, increse and profyte of the seyd crafte toune and cuntre, be the sadde and discrete advyse of his officers

and councell, made inactyd and auctorysed in maner and forme as hiere after foleweeth :—

Furst, yt ys be alle the persones ocupying the seyd crafte provyded, agreed, and be the consent of the Secristene afornseyd, be the advyse of his officers and counceyll, inactyd, and for a byghlawe, to the plesure of Allmyghty God and profyte increse and avauntage of the seyd crafte, toune and cuntre, made and auctorysed, that every mane as weell maisters, howsholders, apprentyses, servauntes hierid be the yeere ore be the iourney, as all other men ocupyeng or excersysyng the seyd crafte of alle maner of wullene or lynene wewyng in the seyd toune of Bury xall dewly assemble and mete togedere yeerly in the feste of Translacione of seynt Edward Kyng and Confessor in the Guyldehalle of the seyd toune of Bury, and thanne and theire chose iiii. discrete *persones* [*underlined for deletion*] and able mene of the seyd crafte hauyng free holde within the seyd toune of Bury to be wardeyns, guyders and rewlers of the seyd crafte and alle persones ocupying the same for the yere folwyng, wiche iiii persones so chosen xall be presentyd within the space of xii dayes thanne immedyate folwyng by the olde wardeyns ore odere substancyall menne of the seyd crafte to the Balyffez of the seyd toune of Bury in the Tollehous of the seyd toune, and thanne and there xall take their charge of the seyd Baliffes, and be sworene upone a boke dewly trewly dylygently and indeferently to ocupye excersyse fulfille and execute every poynt to them belonggyng their seyd office, and truly to correcte and presente alle maner defautes deceytes misprysiouns doone be ony persone ocupying the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys be alle the persones aforne rehersyd, provyded inactyd and auctorysyd that the sey[d] iiii wardeyns in the maner and forme above rehersyd chosene and swore xall have full auctoryte and power yeerly in the place and tyme above rehersyd, and fro tyme to tyme as often be their discrecione xall thoughte behofull neccessary or expedyent to swere every persone occupying or excersy[s]ing the seyd crafte within the seyd toune of Bury dewly and treuly to kepe performe obeye fulfille and execute every poynt conteynyd and comprysid in this articule and every articule folwyng. The seyd wardeyns xall have also fro tyme to tyme, as oftene be their discrecione they thynkke convenyent or metely [*power to* ?] make dwe serche in the seyd crafte, and have full auctoryte and power to entre in every mannys hous occupying the seyd crafte dewly and trewly to serche if ony thyng be usyd occupyed or excersysyd be ony persone in the seyd crafte contrarye to these ordinaunces and bylawes as hereafter be rehersyd. And if ony persone dewly chosene to be wardeyne refuse and wyll not take his charge dewly and treuly to ocupye and excersyse the seyd office in maner and forme afornrehersyd, thanne that persone so refusyng xall lose and forfete xiii^{s} iiii^{d}, whereof the Secristene of Bury afornseyd for the tyme beyng xall have the one half, and the othere half to go to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the payent of the Assencione of oure Lord God and of the yiftys of the Holy Gost, as yt hath be customed of olde tyme owte of mynde yeerly to be had to the wurschepe of God, amongge other payenttes in the processione in the feste of Corpus Xr̃i. And yf ony wardeyne of the seyd crafte be after the charge as ys afornrehersyd be hym take neclygent remisse or in ony maner of wyse defectyff in executyng or in excersysyng of his seyd office, that wardeyne so devly founde defectyff xall loose and forfete for euery poynt that he is founde fauty or defectyff in iij^{s}. iiij^{d}., wherof the seyd Secristene xall haue the one half, and the other halfe to go to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the seyd pagent.

Also yt ys be alle the occupierez of the seyd crafte, with the assent and agreement of the Secristene afornseyd in maner and forme aboue

rehersyd, provydyd, agreed, inactyd and auctorysyd, that euery persone vsyng the seyd crafte xall in maner and forme abouerehersyd dewly assemble and mete togedere the tyme and place afornrehersyd, and thanne and there aforne the wardeyns or other substancyall menne of the seyd crafte take their charge and be swore dewly and treuly to kepe, performe, obeye, fulfille, and execute euery poynte conteynyd and comprysyd in these provysiouns ordinaunces and bylawes. And yf ony persone occupying the seyd crafte of necligence wylfulnesse or frowardnesse, or ony other cause, withoute licence of the wardeyns of such cause as the seyd wardeyns xall thynkke resonable, be absent, and mete not with the wardeyns occupiers of the seyd crafte at the place and tyme afornelymytyd and assignyd, or diligently geve not his attendaunce abowte suche thyngges as there and thanne xall be do and executyd, or be disobedyent vnto the seyd wardeyns in takyng of their othe or charge, or ony other thyng that the wardeyns with the more part of the substancyall householders of the seyd crafte xall be put to hym or resonably assignyd hym to do, or if ony persone occupying the seyd crafte be rebell to the seyd wardey[n]s and wyll not suffir them pesibly without grutchyng to entir into his hous and to euery place convenyent to make their serche dewly in maner and forme afornrehersyd, that persone so dewly fownde defectyff in ony of these poyntes afornseyd xall forfete and loose for euery poynt that is so found defectyff in xiij^{s}. iiij^{d}., wherof the Secristene afornseyd xall haue the one halfe, and the seyd wardeyns the other halfe to the sustentacyone and mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and profythe of the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys in maner and forme and be the auctoryte afornrehersyd ordeynyd and provydyd that no persone fro this day forward take upon hym to sette vp ony loomes or to occupie the seyd crafte within the sey[d] toune of Bury but suche persones as haue be apprentyses to the seyd crafte and haue sufficient kunnyng and understondyng in the same, and so be examynyd and admyttyd be the seyd wardeyns as able menne to sette vp and occupie the seyd crafte, and that no persone of the seyd crafte within the toune of Bury xall not [*sic*] occupie at oonys moo thanne iiij loomes, and that no persone haue [*having?*] sufficient kunnyng and understondyng in the occupacione and excersyse of the seyd crafte and not beyng of pouere and hauour to sette up loomes and occupie the seyd crafte to his owyne propir vse increse and avauntage, occupie excersyse or werke in the seyd crafte be yeer be day or be the iourney with ony persone or persones within the seyd toune of Bury but suche persones or persone as be the seyd wardeyns be admytted to occupie the seyd crafte, and haue beforne the seyd wardeyns take their charge and be sworne trewly to obserue and kepe alle these bylawes provysyonys and ordenaunces. And that no persone occupying [and] excersysyng the seyd crafte witholde or here ony persone to labour with hym in the seyd crafte be the yeer, the moneth, the wyk, the day, or be the iourney, but suche as he wull answere for as weell for his good demenyng and beryng ageyne the seyd wardeyns and euery other persone of the seyd crafte as for the good and sufficient werkemanshepe of wiche [*suche*] werke as xalbe wroughte be hym, and that euery persone so wythhold heryd or wagyd be the yeer or lesse tyme contynue in the seyd toune occupyid in the seyd crafte be the space of a yeere xall paye to the mayntenaunce and sustentacione of the seyd payent iiij^{d} And that no persone presume [*any person presuming*] to do contrarye to ony poynt conteynyd in these articules and poyntes afornrehersyd, xall forfete and loose for euery poynt that is so founde defectyff in xiij^{s} iiij^{d}, wherof the Secristene afornseyd xall haue the one halfe and the

seyd wardeyns to [*sic*] the othere halfe to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and profyth of the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys in maner and forme and be the auctoryte afornrehersyd ordeynyd and provydyd that euery foreyne weuer that fettyth of the seyd toune of Bury mennys yerne for to webbe xall be contributorie vnto the sustentacione of the seyd payent lyke as a deyzin weuer oweeth to bee. And that no persone of the seyd crafte in Bury shalle receywe any apprentycez for shortere terme thanne he be lykly to haue sufficient kunnyng withinne space of vii yere, nor to reseyue apprentys under colour of a journymanne for short tyme for to entre hym in the crafte for a lucre. And that no persone of the seyd crafte shalle werke his crafte of weuyng wuluene or lynene in the seyd toune of Bury with ony other manne thanne with a manne of the same crafte. And that no persone presume to do contrarie to ony poynt conteynyd in these articules vpon peyne of forfeture of xx^{s} as oftyne tymys as ony persone of the seyd crafte is founde defectyff, wherof the Secristene afornseyd xall haue the one halfe, and the seyd wardeyns the othere halfe to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and profyth of the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys in maner and forme and be the auctoryte afornrehersyd ordeynyd, inactyd and provydyd that no persone of the seyd crafte within the toune of Bury xall not [*sic*] receyve non apprentice into the seyd crafte fore shorter ore lesse tyme thanne vii yere. And that no persone of the seyd crafte in Bury xall not make no debate amongges the seyd felashippe, and wull not be rewlyd or be rebell *and* [*marked for deletion*] ayens the wardeyns, and will not be gouerned, xall forfete and loose for euery poynt that he is founde fauty or defectyf in xiii^{s} iiij^{d}, wherof the Secristene afornrehersyd xall haue the oone halfe, and the seyd wardeyns the othere halfe to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and profyth of the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys in maner and forme and be the auctoryte afornrehersyd ordeynyd, inactyd and provydyd that what persone of the seyd crafte withholde a jurnymanne for a terme withinne wiche terme the jurnymanne be vacant for the defaute of werke the maister shalle satysfye vnto his jurnymanne for his losse be warde of the wardeyns, but yf the maister and the seyd journymanne may accorde be them selfe, and what journymanne witheholde with the maister of the seyd crafte begynne a werke in his maisteris loome and then leve of that werke and ocupie hym in other place, or be idell, wher thourghte his maisteris werke be not sped but is henderyd azens his custemers, xall satisfie to his maister of his damage by the consyderacione of the wardeyns but if the parties acorde be them selfe. And if ony persone manne or womanne dwellyng in Bury or in ony other toune compleyne hem vp[on] ony weuer in Bury that heire yeerne is not put in theire webbe, or that the webbe is *ony* [*marked for deletion*] onesufficiently wroughte, or ony other deseythe or defaute done to them in there webbe, and shewe the webbe or thanne it be fullyd, the werkemanne xall make aseethe and amendez vnto the ovener of the webbe for his harmes after the consyderacione of the wardeyns and agreement of the pleyntyff. Also yf ony persone of the seyd crafte be malyce or fals coueytyse procure or aloyne ony apprentycez seruauntez or journymenne from the servyse of his maister that vsythe the same crafte in Bury, he xall make amendes vnto the maister after the awarde of the wardeyns and agrement of the maister. And no persone presume to do contrarye to ony poynt conteynyd in these articules vpone peyne of forfeture xiij^{s} iiij^{d}, wherof the Secristene aforneseyd xall haue the one halfe, and the seyd wardeyns the othere halfe to the sustentacione and mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and profythe of the seyd crafte.

Also yt ys be alle the occupiers of the seyd crafte withe the assent and agrement of the Secristene aforneseyd provydyd, agreed, inactyd and auctorysed that no maner persone nor persones foreners comyng to the seyd toune of Bury xall not (*sic*) take vpone hym nor of them to sette vp ony loomes to occupye the seyd crafte of wuluene and lynene wewying withe in the seyd toune of Bury but suche as haue be apprentyses to the seyd crafte withinne the seyd toune of Bury, and have sufficyent kunnyng and vnderstondyng in the same, and so to be examynyd and admyttyd be the seyd wardeyns as able menne to sette vp or to occupie the seyd crafte. And alle suche persones or persone foreners or forener beforne the wardeyns and mo of the most substancyalle menne of the seyd crafte take their charge and be sworne dewly and trewly to kepe, performe, obeye, fulfille and execute euery poynt conteynyd and comprysed in the provysyouns ordenaunces and bylawes abowe rehersyd and after rehersyd, and that persone or persones foreners that xall so be admyttyd to sette vp the seyd crafte xall pay at the begynnyng in settyng vp of his or their crafte of alle maner of wuluene and lynene wewyng xiii^{s} iiij^{d}, whereof the Secristene afornseyd xall haue the one half and the *wardeyns* [*underlined for deletion*] other halfe to go to the sustentacione and the mayntenaunce of the seyd payent and crafte. And that no persone presume to do contrarye to ony poynt conteynyd in this articule vpone peyne of forfeture as oftyne tymys as ony persone is founde defectyff in xx^{s}, wherof the Secristene afornseyd xall haue the one halfe, and the wardeyns to the sustentacion vse and profyte of the seyd payent and crafte the other halfe.

Also yt ys be the agrement and assent afornrehersyd ordeynyd provydyd agreed inacted and auctorysed of alle the persones occupying the seyd crafte ordeynyd that one day with inne Lentene duryng the lete of the seyd toune of Bury to be assignyd be the discrecione of the Balyffez of the seyd toune xall appiere beforne the seyd Baliffez, be the retourn and warnyng of the subbaylleffez of the seyd toune and the wardeyns, xii or xiiii honeste and discrete persones of the seyd crafte thanne and there to be sworne and streytely chargyd be the seyd Baliffez trewly and indeferently to inquere and to present alle the persones that in ony poynt mysbehave them or do ayene or contrarye to ony of these bylawes provysiouns and ordenaunces aforrehersyd, and them dewly to punyshe accordyng to the same bylawes provysionnys and ordenaunces. And if ony persone warnyd be the wardeyns and subbaylleffez in maner and forme rehersyd to appere beforne the seyd Baylleffez make defaute and appere not, that persone so makyng defaute xall forfete iii^{s} iiij^{d}, wherof the Secristene afornseyd xall hawe the one halfe, and the wardeyns to the sustentacione vse and profythe of the seyd payent and crafte [the other half *omitted*].

Also yt ys assentyd, agreed, ordeynyd and provydyd that alle the forfetures, fynes, peynes ore amercymentez that xall growe be reasone of the ordenaunces, provysyonnys and bylawes as weell to the seyd Secristene as to the seyd wardeyns xall be leuyed and gadered be the wardeyns and seruauntes and officers of the seyd Secristene, that is to say be the subbaylleffez accordyng to the stretes to them be the clerc of the Tollehous deleuered of alle such presenttementes wiche xall be presentyd and amercyd ; wiche seyd wardeyns and subbaylleffez xall yeerly make a trewe accounpte to the seyd Secristene of suche duetes as to hym xall be longgyng in that behalf, and to the sustentacione of the seyd payent and crafte of that parte thereto xall be longgyng and perteyne, takyng for their labour as weell for the gaderyng of the seyd duetes as for their attendaunce in the tyme of the

makyng of theire accounpte of euery xii^{d} ii^{d} be them gaderyd as weell of the seyd Secristene ys part as for the other of the seyd crafte. Prouydyng alwey that the seyd wardens and subbaylleffez bee their othes hawe alwey alowaunce and be dischargyd of alle suche parcellez as they may not gadere nore make leuy of. In wythenesse whereof the parties aboue named to these present indentures interchaungeably haue put their sealys. Youene the day and yeer above wretene."

The seal of the bailiffs is attached, in red wax, and is perfect: a shield bearing three crowns, surmounted by a helmet. "S' officii ballivor$^{\text{ϱ}}$ ville de Buri Sc̃i Edm̃i." The indenture is marked with lateral indentation.

1490–1, 1493–4.—Two rolls of accounts of the bailiff of the manor of Great Bartone.

i. "Compotus Willelmi Cok collectoris redditus et firme manerii." Mich. 6 Hen. VII—Mich. 7 Hen. VII.

ii. Account of the same collector, Mich. 9 Hen. VII.—Mich. 10 Hen. VII.

The total of receipts in the former year is 97*l.* 8*s.* 2¾*d.* and half a farthing; of disbursements, including payments, &c. to the abbot, 97*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* half-farthing. In the latter year, receipts 81*l.* 9*s.* 10¾*d.*; disbursements 87*l.* 0*s.* 0½*d.*

1516, 20 Nov. *an* 8. At Westm.—*Inspeximus* charter of Hen. VIII., reciting the charters to the abbey from that of Canute, and commencing with the *inspeximus* of Hen. VII. of 1 Dec. *an.* 3. Three sheets; 194 lines, numbered in the margin. Great seal, broken. In a brown paper parcel, with other documents, marked "1" on a metal label.

1520, 13 Dec. 12 Hen. VIII. At Hampton.—Copy, on paper, about the beginning of the 17th cent. (certified by John Kitson) of a grant from the King to the abbey of the goods of outlaws, of waifs, &c., superseding, for the removal of doubts and ambiguities, a previous grant dated at Croydon 12 Apr. *an.* 5 (1514), which the abbot has surrendered.

Copy of another grant of the same date, of deodands and treasure trove.

1526.—A quarto book in a parchment cover, containing on 39 leaves of vellum, well written and well preserved, a rental of the property in Bury belonging to the Sacristan. The following title is prefixed:—"Rentale reddit. assic. (*sic*) ville de Bury Sc̃i Edmundi pertinen. offic. Sacr̃e monasterii Sancti Edmundi annuatim percipiend. ad festa Sc̃i Mich̃is arch̃i et Pasch. equis porcionibus, renovat. per domp. Thomam Gnatsale Sacr̃am antedict. mon. a° r. r. Henrici octavi decimo octavo."

1540, 25 March. 31 Hen. VIII. At Walden.—Copy, on paper, in the 17th cent. of the grant to Thomas Kitson, of London, knt., and Margaret his wife, for the sum of £3710 and 20^{d}, of the manors of Rysbie, Sextens otherwise called Westley, Chevington, Hargrave, Downdham, Fornham All Saints, Fornham St. Genevieve, and Fornham St. Martin, and the park of Chevington, lately belonging to the dissolved monastery of Bury.

1541.—Two receipts from John Acres for 24*l.* paid by John Holt, gentleman, in two payments, for the tenth and fifteenth due 4 Feb. 1541 from the town of Bury. There is a receipt for another payment of tax in 1542, and ten receipts in the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth.

1546, 28 Jan. 37 Hen. VIII.—Contemporary copy on a paper roll of a decree in the Court of Augmentation in a suit respecting tithes between William Clyfton, citizen and merchant tailor of London and farmer of

all the tithes formerly held by the almoner of the abbey, and Thomas Saxsey, clerk, master of St. Nicholas Chapel in Bury and parson of Fornham All Saints.

1556, 12 Feb. 2–3 Phil. and Mary.—Exemplification of a process in 9 Edw. IV. (1469) in which the Abbot of Bury established his right by production of charters to exclusive jurisdiction in the town of Bury, against all secular officers, whereupon sessions were adjourned from Bury to Henhowe. On three skins. Small fragment of seal.

1560.—Three receipts for payments for the supply of clothes and arms for soldiers sent forth from Bury.

1564.—A quarto paper book containing a rental of the town of Bury. This is wrapped in two folio leaves of a MS. breviary, containing portions of the offices for the days of St. Paul and St. John Bapt.

1569.—Account of money laid out by Bartholomew Brokesby in the assurance of lands to Sir Nicholas Bacon for the use of the town of Bury.

1570–1.—Three receipts for payments for clothes and arms for soldiers.

1571, 6 June. 13 Eliz.—Contemporary copy of a grant by the Queen to Nicholas Bacon, esq., of the office of bailiff of Bury as fully as formerly held by Robert Drury, knt., and Clement Heigham, knt., with the annual fee of 7*l.*

1571–1575.—A folio paper book of forty leaves, in parchment cover, containing orders made respecting servants and workmen in Bury, licenses to dwell in the town and orders to depart, punishments by placing in the stocks in the market-place and whipping at the bull-ring, etc.; beginning on Sunday 14 Jan. 1570(–1) and ending 11 Dec. 1575.

On the first page the following "articles" are written :—"Articles to be enquired of and put in execucion at the meting of the towneship of Burye the xiiiith daie of Januarye 1570.

1. First, that every person do repaire to churche every Sondaie and holydaie, and there continewe according to the Q. Majesties lawes, upon peyne in the late statute provided.
2. Item, that every artifycer and labourer suspected of loytring do weekely declare to one of the cunstables of the warde every Sondaie in the morning where he wrought every daie in the said weeke, and the said cunstable to enquire immediatlie the truth thereof.
3. Item, that every journeyman do serve according to the Q. Majesties statutes.
4. Item, if any labourer shall not be provided of worke on the Sondaie for the weeke following, then the curate or cunstable to move the parishe for worke.
5. Item, every spynster to have (if it may be) vi^{lb} of wolle everye weeke, and to bringe the same home every Saterdaie at night, and if any faile so to doe, the clothier to advertise the cunstable thereof for the examynacion of the cause, and to punyshe it according to the qualitye of the falte.
6. Item, serch to be made every moneth ones in every warde for the resorte of vagaboundes and newe comers into the warde.
7. Item, that no pore person to be suffered to kepe their childrene at home able to serve, but put them to service, without their be

speciall cause to the contrarye. [An illustration of this order is given on 28 Jan. following, when Agnes Servall, daughter of Joan Johnson, is enjoined to go to service before Easter, on pain of whipping both mother and daughter, and in the mean time to be of good behaviour, and to keep her church on the sabbath days.]

8. Item, that there be no person that set up any allehowse unles he shuld have licence under the justices' hands."

At the end of the volume is a list of "the names of the inhabitants for comen conference" in 1570, and on other pages, i. names of poor people to whom gowns were given in Nov. 1572 at the charge of the town house; ii. winter liveries given 30 Oct. 1574; iii. cards and spinning-wheels also given in Oct. 1574.

1604, 14 June. 2 Jas. I.—Grant from the Crown to Robert Drury, knt., of the tithes &c. formerly belonging to the almoner of the monastery, on a lease for forty years. Great seal, in white wax, partly broken.

1607.—A folio paper book, containing 22 written leaves, in a parchment cover, bearing the following title; "Constitucions, lawes, statuts, decrees and ordinaunces" made 18 July 5 Jas. I. "by the alderman, assistants and burgesses of the burghe of Bury St. Edmunde, for the good goverment of the said burghe and of the people and inhabitants of the same," by virtue of letters patent granted 3 Apr. 1606 to the alderman and burgesses; examined and approved by Sir Edw. Coke, knt., and Sir Will. Danyell, knt., justices of assize for Suffolk, in their circuit, 21 July, 1607. The signatures of Coke and Danyell are attached at the end of the orders. The orders, in number 132, are arranged under the following heads: i. To avoid idleness and relieve the poor. ii. To avoid the misdemeanours daily done in inns, taverns, alehouses and tippling houses. iii. To avoid common nuisances within the streets and lanes. iv. For apprentices and the making them free for service done, and how freemen shall order themselves. v. For the good government of the corporation and to avoid abuses to the alderman and burgesses. vi. For process and fees of the court of record. vii. For the true working of cloth. The orders for the regulation of this trade amount to 38. viii. For the sale of victuals. ix. A prohibition to tailors, saddlers, &c. for the buying of cloth, silk, &c. to sell again. x. For usage of the fairs and markets by strangers. xi. Against freemen colouring foreign goods. xii. To avoid swearing and using unseemly songs, ballads, libels and rhymes. Fourpence for every oath, and for every such song twelve pence; in default, the house of correction. xiii. To prevent the infecting of youth in Popery by schoolmasters. No one, except the master and usher of the free grammar school, to teach children to read, write, or understand the English, Latin, French, Italian or Spanish tongues, without license of the alderman and burgesses, upon pain of forfeiting for every default 6*s.* 8*d.* xiv. That lanterns and candles may be shewed in winter, as well to give light to such as for just causes go abroad in the night as to find out such as commit misdemeanours in the dark. xv. To prevent the excessive dearth of wood, coals, and other fuel. No brewers, dyers, or others using much fuel in their trades to burn any wood or charcoal, but only sea-coal, sedge, straw, or other such things; and no innkeepers to brew except for their own families. xvi. To prevent deceits by such as buy and sell by unsealed weights and measures. xvii. To prevent the excessive turning of barley into malt and the unnecessary number of maltsters, and the making of malt at unseasonable times. xviii. For the better ordering of the market. xix. For the ordering of linen

weavers in their trade. Nine orders. xx. For the ordering of bakers in their trade and the keeping the assize of bread. Twenty-seven orders. xxi. For the relief of the cutlers dwelling in this borough, and to prevent the resort of cutlers that are strangers.

At the end of the volume are added three subsequent orders. One of 27 July 1608, that whereas on 11 Apr. by a fire commencing in a malt-house covered with thatch 160 dwelling-houses and 400 outhouses and houses of necessary use, or thereabouts, were utterly consumed, the loss being esteemed not so little as 60,000*l.*, to the utter undoing of many of the inhabitants, the thatched houses being the principal occasion of the fire being carried by the wind, it is ordered that no person building or repairing any house with overway and spars cover it with thatch but wholly with tile, slate, lead, or board.* Another on 1 Sept. 1609 that whereas the streets are greatly impaired by the multitude of brewers' carts having wheels shod with iron, to the general annoyance of the inhabitants and of all such as resort hither, no brewer shall carry beer through the streets in any cart having such wheels. A third of 6 Jan. 162$\frac{3}{4}$ that no one be elected for burgess in parliament but such as shall have been admitted a free burgess of the council of the borough, and shall have taken oath to defend its franchises.

1609, 1 Apr. 7 Jas. I.—Copy, on a paper roll, of a charter of incorporation for the clothiers, clothworkers, woollen weavers, and tailors of Bury.

Copy, on a paper roll, of constitutions and orders for the regulation of the corporation, submitted by George Boldero, clothier, and George Fisson, tailor, masters of the art of clothiers, &c., and Edmund Heinard, clothier, and Edward White, weaver, to Lord Chancellor Ellesmere, and approved by him.

Copy of a subsequent petition from clothiers and tailors, &c., praying that the charter may be withdrawn and the corporation suppressed, on the ground that it was obtained by only a few persons against the will of the majority, and is made only a means for extorting money.

1613, 10 July.—Agreement signed by 40 burgesses that whereas the common carrier of the town has usually travelled towards London on Wednesday morning in every week, he shall henceforth for the better observation of the sabbath day, set forth upon Monday and make his return upon Saturday, and the letter carrier so to travel that he may make his return upon Saturday.

1614, 20 Oct.—List of all the inhabitants of St. Mary's parish owing service at the court leet, and of all the brewers, innholders, alehouse-keepers, butchers, millers, and "deasners" in the same parish.

1616–17.—Papers relating to a dispute between the brewers and the inn-holders:—

1. Copy of a petition from the common brewers of the town to the Privy Council, setting forth that whereas they are from time to time, according to the statute, restrained to sell their beer at set prices, the innholders and alehouse keepers, as not being within the letter of the statute, and not selling out of their houses, take liberty to brew beer of such excessive strength, priced at the rate of 8*d.* per gallon, as that the beer made by the common brewers is not vendible; such strong beer being also an extraordinary waste of malt and wheat, and a bewitching means to draw the people to drunkenness, idleness, and other vices displeasing to God. And

* This fire is mentioned in Stow's Chronicle.

although many of the said innkeepers have been imprisoned and otherwise punished so far as by law they might be, yet they persist and increase in their disorder. The Council therefore are prayed to interpose their authority.

2. Original letter from the Privy Council to the Justices of Assize for Suffolk, directing them at the next assizes to take notice of this complaint, and to order some effectual course for the reformation of so foul an abuse; Greenwich, 23 June, 1616. Signed by G. [Abbot] Cant., T. Ellesmere, Canc., T. Suffolke, E. Worcester, Lenox, Pembroke, Fenton, E. Zouche, W. Knollys, E. Wotton, Raphe Winwood, and Tho. Lake.

3. Copy of a petition to the justices of assize from "a great number of poor people," whose names are subscribed, setting forth that "we have many years been relieved by those innkeepers which had the liberty to brew their beer in their own houses, not only with money and food, but also at the several times of their brewing, (being moved with pity and compassion, knowing our great extremities and necessities) with such quantities of their small beer as has been a continual help and comfort to us with our poor wives and children; yet of late the common brewers, whose number is small and their benefits to us the poor as little, notwithstanding in their estate they are wealthy and occupy great offices of malting, under pretence of doing good to the commonwealth, have for their own lucre and gain privately combined themselves, and procured orders from the Privy Council that none shall brew in this town but they and their adherents, and by that means seek further to enrich themselves by prohibiting of our said continual benefactors from brewing; so that we your poor suppliants with our families shall be utterly undone and impoverished." They pray therefore that the brewers may not be allowed to debar so many charitable persons from brewing, and thereby to undo a great number of poor men with their wives, children, widows, fatherless, and orphans. The names of fifteen innholders are subjoined, with those of twenty-eight petitioners, mentioning their wives and children.

4. Order of the judges of assize referring the matter to the Recorder, Alderman, and others for examination; 4 July, 1616.

5. Reasons against brewing in inns and alehouses; 25 March, 1617.

6. Account of the hearing of both parties before Robert Brown, the alderman, Sir John Heigham, knt., Thomas Richardson, serj.-at-law and recorder, and John Gooderich, coroner, by virtue of letters from the Privy Council, with their order thereupon that all common innkeepers and alehouse keepers shall from henceforth be wholly suppressed from brewing in any of their houses or in any place to serve their houses, except such as shall be licensed to brew ale only. Of this paper there is a fair copy, and also a rough draft with corrections, signed by Sir T. Heigham. To the latter is subjoined a draft of a letter from one J. M. to one of the burgesses in Parliament, asking for advice respecting the carrying out of the order.

161$\frac{7}{8}$, 22 Feb.—Citation from the Court of Arches to the alderman and burgesses of Bury to appear for the acceptance of a legacy from Stephen Peers, M.D., of Goville and Caius College, Cambridge, of 1,000*l.* on trust to pay 50*l.* yearly to the said college, and to lend the principal to honest young tradesmen in sums of 30*l.*, or 40*l.* at most, with good security, at 5 per cent. interest. Legacies of 2,000*l.* to

Norwich and 1,000*l.* to Cambridge and King's Lynn are also bequeathed upon similar conditions.

1620.—Petition in Chancery from Sir Nicholas Bacon, bart., of Redgrave, dated 23 June 1620, complaining that since the incorporation of the borough ten years since, the alderman and burgesses do not only maintain not so few as 300 alehouses besides the common inns, but levy for the town the amerciaments, recognizances, &c. which belong to him by virtue of the grant to his father of the rights formerly possessed by the Abbey.

1620–1628.—Sheriffs' indentures with the alderman and burgesses, and writs, for parliamentary elections:—

1. 1620, 2 Jan.—Election of Thomas Jermyn, knt., and John Woodford, esq. Signed by William Springe, sheriff. On parchment.
2. 1623, 15 Jan.—Writ from Nat. Barnardiston, sheriff, for an election. On paper.
3. 1625, 11 Jan.—Election of Thomas Jermyn, knt., and Emmanuel Gifford. Signed by Samuel Ailemer, sheriff. On parchment.
4. 162$\frac{7}{8}$, 14 Feb.—Writ from Maurice Burrowe, sheriff, signed by Robert Aldhouse, deputy sheriff. On paper.

1632, 28 Sept.—Grant from the governors of the Free School to the feoffees of the town lands, in pursuance of an indenture dated 21 Jan. in the same year, of all the tithes formerly belonging to the chapel or hospital of St. Peter, which were sold and conveyed to the said governors by Charles Somerset, esq., son and heir of Sir George Somerset, knt., by deed dated 20 March 24 Eliz. [1582]; and the said governors release the said feoffees from payment of 100*l.*, part of a sum of 200*l.* lent to them towards the purchase of the churches in the town of Bury, &c. A broken impression of the school seal is attached, which may possibly be amongst the earliest in existence, representing our Lord, with five heads of persons around Him, and His words beneath, "Sinite puerulos venire ad Me." [This is contained in a parcel wrapped up in brown paper, with the number "1" attached on a tin label.]

1635.—Papers relating to a muster of the trained bands:—

1. Copy, certified by Theo., earl of Suffolk, lord lieut. of the county, of a letter to him from the Privy Council, enjoining him, in consequence of daily advertisements from parts abroad of great preparations by neighbouring princes and states, both by sea and land, to have immediate and careful musters made of all the trained forces, and to see that their arms be complete according to the modern fashion, to the providing of which arms clergy and recusants are to contribute; 27 April, 1635.
2. Letter from the earl of Suffolk, to the Alderman, recorder, and deputy-lieutenants of Bury, in accordance with the preceding; Suffolk House, 8 May.
3. Muster-rolls for the High, East, West, North and South Wards of all the able men from 16 to 60; taken 29 May. These rolls are of much local interest as giving the names of probably almost all the families then resident in Bury. An endorsement gives the total number as 1335.

1662. Resolution, signed and sealed by 12 commissioners for carrying out the Act for the well governing of Corporations, that Oliver Hovell's place as one of the 24 burgesses be void, he having refused to sign the declaration required by the Act, and admitting William Browne in his

place ; 24 Oct. 1662. To this is attached the declaration referred to, against the Solemn League and Covenant, with the signatures of all the members and officers of the Corporation. On parchment. A copy of this is entered in the Corporation Minute-book.

1667.—Rental-book of the houses in Bury belonging to the town.

III.—MINUTE-BOOKS OF THE CORPORATION

These books only begin at the year 1652, and up to the commencement of the present century form four volumes.

I. 1652–1691. ff. 255. Up to about the year 1679 this register appears to have been often kept irregularly, many leaves being left blank for entries never made.

1653, 29 Dec.—Five shillings to be paid to the ringers for ringing yesterday at the proclamation of the Lord Protector.

1654, 30 Oct.—Mr. Yaxley elected minister of St. James's in the place of Mr. John Gibbon, deceased. But on 9 March following Mr. Browneing was elected instead. Then on 28 May it was ordered that June 8 be set apart as a day to seek God in the behalf of a minister to supply the place in the parish of St. James, and that Mr. Ray of Watfield, Mr. Lea of Groton, Mr. Browneing and Mr. Clegate be desired to assist in the carrying on of the work of that day. And on 16 July Mr. Samuel Slater was elected.

1657, 16 July.—Thanks given to Richard Child, M.D., for offering to give advice to poor sick people without fee.

1660, 18 Oct.—Ordered that the charters and evidences belonging to the Corporation be severed from the evidences and writings belonging to the feoffees of the Guildhall feoffment, and put into several chests within the evidence house.

1660, 11 March.—"At this meeting it was put to the question as followeth and voted :

1. First, whether Mr. Nicholas Clegate and Mr. Samuel Slater are fit persons to be continued ministers of this burgh or not, in regard they do refuse to be conformable to the discipline of the Church, according to the known laws of the kingdom. And it was carried in the negative.
2. Secondly, whether in respect of their non-conformity they shall continue ministers of the respective parishes of St. Mary and St. James for any longer time than to our Lady-day next or not. And this was also carried in the negative.
3. Thirdly, whether they shall be permitted to preach in St. Mary's parish only until midsummer next, and no longer, they admitting the Book of Common Prayer to be duly read there during that time, and having paid unto them for their salaries for preaching the Sundays' sermons and the Friday lectures in that parish, during the said time, twenty pounds apiece. And this was carried in the affirmative, *nemine contradicente*.

March 18, 1660.—We do subscribe and agree to these three votes. In witness whereof we have put our names, Nicholas Claget, Samuel Slater."

1661, 20 June.—Mr. John Burrough, rector of Ingham, elected minister of St. James.

1661, 20 Jan.—Order respecting trustees of Lady Rivers' bequest of 8*l.* per an. for four quarterly sermons.

1662, 4 Aug.—Five pounds given to Mr. Thomas Stephens as a gratuity for preaching and officiating at St. James's, to be laid out in books.

1663, 12 Oct.—The town being without any settled ministers, the alderman is to be allowed such charges as he shall be at in providing ministers and giving them and their attendants fit and necessary entertainment for the time they stay in town.

1663, 9 Nov.—Mr. William Williams elected to be one of the ministers at a salary of 80*l. per an.*, with a dwelling house, or in lieu thereof 6*l.*, to preach once on Sunday and to catechise, and the Friday lecture once a fortnight; the proposed salary increased on 16 Nov. to 100*l. per an.* to preach twice on the Lord's day, and to visit the sick. But Mr. Williams professing inability of body to bear the burden of preaching twice on the Lord's day and once a fortnight on Friday, his election was annulled on 11 Jan. Dr. William Starkey was elected in his place on 21 Jan., and Mr. Thomas Johnson to be the other minister on 21 July, 1664, both on the same terms.

1664, 18 Aug.—Letter from the King, of 22 July, recommending John Moore to be town-clerk, in consideration of his good services to Charles I. and his sufferings for the same, and a letter to the same effect from the Earl of St. Alban's; letters of assent from the Corporation; and reply from Sir Will. Morice, Secretary of State, on 10 Sept.

1664, 27 Oct.—Draft of the new charter approved.

1664, 10 Dec.—Letter from the Earl of St. Alban's, of 26 Nov., desiring that Mr. John Moore's name may be inserted in the new Charter as town-clerk.

1665. 10 Aug.—"Whereas it is conceived very necessary in these dangerous times of God's visitation timely to provide a pesthouse in case it should please God to send the plague amongst us, it is ordered and agreed that the great barn called Almoner's Barn belonging to the Corporation be used for that purpose, it being thought to be the most convenient place about the town, and the Corporation having no use for the said barn this year."

1668, 27 March.—45*l.* paid to Mr. John Clarke for two maces.

Catechising for instructing the poor people of St. Mary's parish, according to Mr. Jasper Sharpe's will, to begin on Tuesday, 7 Apr., and 4*l. per an.* to be paid to the officiating minister; Mr. John Tempie, curate of St. Mary's, to be the minister *pro temp.*

22 May.—The alderman and burgesses having received intelligence that the King intends shortly to come in person to the town, and conceiving it a duty incumbent upon them to present him with a sum of money in acknowledgment of their thankfulness for his and his grandfather King James's large and ample bounty and favour bestowed upon this Corporation, it is agreed that 100*l.* in guinea gold be presented to him, to be borrowed on their personal securities.

28 May.—Demand being made by the King's servants, upon his passing through the town on Sunday last, for 36*l.* 6*s.* as their due fees, the Recorder is to use his best endeavours to get the charge taken off at London, but if he cannot prevail he shall engage for payment thereof.

1668, 3 Aug.—The new charter presented and read.

1668, 29 Aug.—Mr. Henry Meriton signs an agreement on being appointed minister of St. James, to do what was required of the previous minister, and so to preach on Christmas Day, 30 Jan., 29 May, 5 Nov., and upon all public humiliation and thanksgiving days; he shall administer the Lord's Supper as enjoined by the canons of the Church of England, and visit the sick if requested, and be resident in the town, supplying the place by himself.

1668, 15 March.—Particulars of the bill of homage-fees demanded by the King's servants on his passing through the town (including 10*s.* for the King's jester), upon which payment is made to Mr. Thomas Duppa, gentleman usher, who has come to the town to receive an answer, and who gives the Corporation to understand that in case they are not paid a pursuivant will suddenly come for the alderman, and carry him up to London, which will be a great discredit and charge to the Corporation.

1669, 3 March—Resolved that Mr. Meriton is not a fit person to be continued minister of St. James, the King having made known his pleasure to that effect to the Recorder by word of mouth, and that the concurrence of the bishop of the diocese be desired therein.

Then follow these copies of letters:

"Mr. Recorder's report delivered to the Corporation as he had it from the King's own mouth, touching Mr. Meriton.

His most excellent Majesty having commanded his attendance upon him upon Sunday 20 Feb. 1669, he obeyed accordingly, and being there his Majesty commanded him to represent to the Corporation that he took it not well from them who had received so many favours from him and his predecessors to choose a minister into the pulpit to instil bad principles into them and his people (of which he had received some information), and that he did expect a removal of him. To which Mr. Recorder answered (on the Corporation's behalf) that he knew they would be sorry for any actions of theirs whereby they should incur His Majesty's displeasure or reproof, and therefore doubted not but if upon mistake any such things were done it should be amended, and promised to represent unto them his Majesty's displeasure against the present minister Mr. Meriton. To which his Majesty replied, Let it be done, and tell them that he was much unsatisfied with the person in respect of his ill-carriages in the pulpit (or to that effect), which is an improper place for sowing of sedition, and therefore wished him again to let them know that he expected his removal, and that he would not suffer the pulpit to make reflections upon him or his government, which showed that he had a presbyterian spirit, and therefore his Majesty wished Mr. Recorder again to represent it to the Corporation, that he might hear no more of it, lest it should reflect more upon them than they were aware of; which Mr. Recorder promised to do, and doubted not but that the Corporation would answer his Majesty's expectations in everything that was suitable to their trust and the great favours bestowed on them by the Crown.

Sir John Duncombe's letter written to Mr. James Cobbs touching Mr. Meriton.

Mr. Cobbs, I thought it fit to let you know what hath passed here about Mr. Meriton, there having been many complaints made to the King of him from several persons of his indiscretion and

unfitness for that place. His Majesty was pleased to call to him Mr. Sotherby your Recorder, and told him that he would not stand to defend and prove, but he expected that the Corporation should dismiss him, and choose another orthodox and able minister; 'twas a great trust reposed in the Corporation to choose their ministers, and his ancestors had given the tithes to support them, and if they did not prefer such as was fit for that duty, he would take care to see better provision made. I cannot doubt but the Corporation will in this express their obedience to his Majesty's commands. I took liberty to excuse this their choice, and said I thought they had been mistaken in the man, and that he proved not what they expected; but I doubted not so soon as they understood his pleasure they would render a present obedience to his will. Which pray let me know when they have done it, that I may present his Majesty with the knowledge of it. Present my service to the Corporation, and assure them I am their very affectionate friend, and ready to serve them in all occasions. So soon as Mr. Sotherby's return to you, he will acquaint the Corporation with what his Majesty gave him in command.

Your affectionate friend and servant,

Feb. 22, '69. J. Duncombe.

Sir John Duncombe's second letter to Mr. James Cobbs.

Sir,—I presented to his Majesty your accompt of what had passed in the Corporation, who was pleased very well to accept of the respect and duty . . . (*blank*) to him and his commands to dismiss Mr. Meriton. I did not omit to let him know how well Mr. Recorder had observed his directions, of Mr. Alderman's and your own concern in his service, and the zeal of others. I did forbear aggravating the failings of some in their slowness (to call it by no worse name) to meet in so extraordinary an occasion, hoping they will be warned by this gentle notice taken of it not to do the like for the future. I must not forget to remind you of one thing which the King recommended to you by your Recorder, that you take care to choose an orthodox and discreet minister. I need not after that say anything. I hope you will be as observant in this as in what you have done, being so much your own good. If there be any appear to be unsatisfied, 'twere well you advise them to understand their duty better. Present my affectionate service of the Corporation.

I am your very faithful friend,

March 10, '69. J. Duncombe.

(These letters were ordered on 17 March to be entered in the book.)

1669, 17 March.—Mr. William Lyng elected minister in place of Meriton, but on 10 May he comes and declines to accept it, but at length consents to act until Michaelmas next.

1670, 18 Aug.—Dr. William Harbert, "an able and an orthodox divine," elected, but on 17 Oct. he also declines election.

1670, 4 March.—Mr. John Edwards (about whose qualifications bishop Gunning of Chichester had been consulted) elected minister of St. James, and admitted on 13 March.

1672, 30 March.—15*l.* to be paid towards the new building of chambers at the Shirehouse, which if not built as is promised and the

judges expect, the assizes, as it is conceived, will be removed from the town.

1672, 12 Apr.—A letter from Mr. Edwards, from St. John's College, Cambridge, 3 Apr., resigning his place as minister of St. James; hopes his successor may by residing please the town better than he hath done. Dr. William Herbert is again elected and on 22 Apr. admitted.

——, 29 Apr.—Dr. William Starkey surrenders his place as minister of St. Mary's. On 20 May Mr. Charles Darby elected, who on 3 June declines acceptance, being settled among people who do so well affect him and he them. On 12 Dec. Mr. William Clagett is elected, and is admitted.

1675, 12 June.—Ordered that the King's arms be set up at the front end of the Market Cross as formerly they had been.

1676, 13 July.—The following letter from the King to the Corporation was read:—

"Charles R. Trusty and well beloved we greet you well. Whereas we have been given to understand that upon the last vacancy of the place of a reader for the parish of St. Mary's by the death of —— Piggott, two persons standing to be elect into the said place, the one William Stewkley, an orthodox divine, the other John Bull, a young man, and unqualified for such an office, as not being in priest's orders and under age, the said John Bull was for the reasons aforesaid protested against by the alderman and several of the burgesses of the Corporation at a general hall called for the said election, not one member of the aforesaid parish being for the said John Bull as we are informed; whereupon the said William Stewkley being recommended to the bishop of the diocese by the consent of the said alderman and chief of the society as well approved of for the said place, the bishop did license him to serve the said cure, and also gave his determination that the said John Bull could not undertake such an office, being not capable by qualification, but did inhibit the said John Bull from giving further trouble to the said William Stewkley therein; notwithstanding which the said John Bull still giving disturbance to the said William Stewkley and the Corporation, in regard he had one voice more than the other at the election, yet considering the difference of their qualifications and the judgment of the bishop in the case, We thought fit, for the preventing of further inconvenience that might grow thereupon, to send message to the Corporation that they would acquiesce in the choice of the said William Stewkley, nevertheless we understand that there are some of the said Corporation who still dissent from it, and seem to make some doubt of the truth of our said message, We therefore, calling to mind that we did authorise the delivery of the said message, and being still desirous to prevent all disturbance and animosity that may arise by any further dissension in our said Corporation concerning this election, have thereupon thought fit by these our royal letters to let you understand that we did send you the said message for your acquiescing in the said election, and we do hereby reiterate and confirm the same, recommending it to all parties concerned that for the peace of the parish and your Corporation you do all acquiesce therein, and receive and accept the said William Stewkley for reader of the forementioned parish church according to the determination and license of the said bishop, without any further

trouble or opposition thereunto. And so we bid you farewell. Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 8th day of July 1676, in the eight and twentieth year of our reign. By his Majesty's command.

"H. Coventry."

Hereupon Stewkley is unanimously elected, with a salary of £20 *per an.* and is admitted. A copy of the King's letter was ordered on 11 Dec. to be given to John Bull.

1677, 5 May.—Mr. Isaac Wragg resigns his readership at St. James's, and Mr. John Bull is elected, with a salary of £20 *per an.*

1678, 24 Oct.—A bond given to Mr. William Clagett for payment of £98 arrears due to him. [The bond not discharged until 21 Jan. 168½.]

1679, 25 Aug.—Sir Thomas Hervey, knt. and Thomas Jermyn, esq., elected burgesses in parliament by the major past present.

——, 31 Aug.—Order for payment of arrears of 50*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* to Dr. Herbert.

1680, 26 July.—Mr. Clagett's resignation of St. Mary's parish accepted. A letter to be sent to the earl of St. Alban's certifying that Mr. Nicholas Battely is an honest, sober, and orthodox divine, and a person of very good abilities, the earl desiring to have such testimony before presenting him to the living of Noughton, resigned by Mr. Gooding.

——, 6 Nov.—Ordered that all the charters belonging to the Corporation be delivered to the Recorder, and by him carried up to London to be made use of to defend the election of Sir Thomas Hervey and Thomas Jermyn, esq. the present burgesses in parliament.

Agreed that no minister having ecclesiastical preferment shall be chosen to be preacher at St. Mary's.

——, 5 March.—Hervey and Jermyn unanimously re-elected burgesses for the parliament to be holden at Oxford. They being present accepted the election, and did freely remit the wages given by Act of parliament to members serving there.

——, 10 March.—Application of Dr. Herbert's widow granted, that she may supply preachers at St. James's until Midsummer. [Orders for payment of arrears due to her follow at intervals up to 1 March 168⅔].

——, 21 March.—Mr. Nicholas Clagett elected minister of St. Mary's, and Mr. Thomas Lynford minister of St. James's. Their signatures are attached to the agreements.

1681, 19 Sept.—An address ordered to be presented to the King [no particulars given].

——, 15 Dec.—Three silver cups which formerly belonged to the alderman for the time being ordered to be changed into a silver tankard.

1682, 27 March.—An address to be presented to the King at Newmarket by all the members of the Corporation in detestation of the Association.

——, 10 June.—The Cross, the chancel of St. James's church, &c. to be repaired. The orders are renewed on 14 June 1683, when it is added that the chancel be repaired for as little a sum as may be ex-

pended; and that St. Mary's chancel be repaired for a sum not exceeding £10.

1683, 14 June.—Mr. Michael Batt elected preacher at St. James's in the place of Mr. Lynford, who resigned at Midsummer, 1682; he is admitted and signs on 7 July.

——, 17 July.—An address to the King agreed upon, and ordered to be engrossed, upon the discovery of the [Rye House plot]. "We cast this humble address at your Majesty's feet, whereby we renew that loyalty which ever was and still is engraven in our hearts in indelible characters, and to manifest our just abhorrence of the treasonable designs and conspiracies of factious, turbulent and anti-monarchical spirits, who have lately confronted heaven itself by designing to murder your sacred majesty and royal brother, and thereby to subject to ruin and destruction the best of governments;" &c.

1684, 12 Apr., 7 May.—Agreed, *nemine contradicente*, to surrender the charters to the King; with the form of surrender adopted, praying the King to re-grant the choosing of officers, and the liberties and franchises, in such manner as he shall judge most conducing for the good government of the burgh.

——, 2 Oct.—Thanks given to Sir Thomas Hervey, knt., for the mayor's sword, which he presented to the Corporation upon his Majesty's creating them a mayor town.

——, 29 Dec.—Ordered that the mayor shall have the sword and mace carried before him on such days as the mace was formerly carried before the alderman.

——, 24 Jan.—Strict inquiry to be made, by two in every ward, how many houses are visited with the small pox, and the churchwardens of each parish to give an account how many have died of the small pox since 1 May last.

The charter to be left in the evidence house, and not in one single man's hands, and three keys to be made for the place where it lies.

1685, 9 Apr.—Sir Thomas Hervey and William Crofts, esq., unanimously chosen burgesses in parliament.

——. 15 May.—A room under "Moses Hall" assigned to Edward Worton.

——, 20 June.—The market cross to be tiled. A moveable "Kucking stool" (*sic*) to be forthwith erected.

——, 8 March.—St. Mary's chancel to be repaired. A further order on 6 Aug. 1687.

1686, 17 Apr.—A "ducking stool" to be forthwith erected at the Eastgate water. [This was removed in 1838.]

——, 14 June.—The glass window in St. James's chancel to be repaired.

——, 13 Dec.—All the charters to be put into the chest in the evidence house, with three locks and three keys.

——, 1 Feb.—The Stamford music to be town music; to be allowed 10*l.* a year and liveries once in two years.

1687 [-8], 23 Jan.—The members present being informed that the Lord Dover was very ill satisfied with the Corporation, it was put to the question whether they should make suitable application to his lordship to regain the good opinion which he hath had of them; and it passed in

the affirmative. [There follows a proposed letter professing great concern at his dissatisfaction, that they have always in election of burgesses of parliament taken their measures from the recommendations of his family, and proposing, in order to show their gratitude for favours, that when the King calls a parliament, he and his brother Lord Jermyn should recommend some gentlemen of the county of the religion of the Church of England, from whom they would be ready to elect two. The major part present, however, desired time to consider of this till the next meeting, and no further entry about a letter occurs until 29 March *infra*, when the intruded members of the Corporation write in a different strain.]

1687, 21 Feb.—Out of the respect which the Corporation bear to the four ministers and curates, Mr. Nich. Clagett, Mr. Mich. Batt, Mr. Will. Stewkeley and Mr. John Bull, instruments are sealed confirming their respective appointments to them for their lives.

1687 [–8], 16 March.—One of his Majesty's messengers brought two instruments for removing Richard Pryme, mayor and alderman, five other aldermen, and ten common-council men, and for forthwith electing and admitting John Stafford to be mayor and alderman, and others into the other places, without administering to them any oath or oaths but the usual oaths for the execution of their respective places. The orders are obeyed, and immediately afterwards Richard Pryme, the late mayor delivered to Stafford the new mayor, the sword, two great maces, two little maces, and the common seal and seal of office. [One of the aldermen named, Thomas Covell, declined acceptance.]

1688, 29 March.—The following letter was agreed to be sent to Lord Dover.

> "May it please your lordship, when we call to mind the great obligations your lordship's family hath formerly laid upon the government of this town, and that your lordship still retains the generous undertakings of your predecessors, we find ourselves not only bound in duty to offer this our acknowledgment of the personal favours you have shown to this Corporation, but also to beg your lordship's patronage of us whom his Majesty hath placed in this government, and to return our humble duties and thanks to his Majesty for the same, assuring him that as we have accepted this trust under his Majesty, so we shall employ it for his service, and we shall express our zeal for the preservation of his person and government, and will never fail upon all occasions in performing the trusts reposed in us according to the duty and obedience that become, Right Hon., your lordship's most obedient servants."

——, 14 May.—An order from the Council for removing four more aldermen and eight common council men, and admitting others without any oaths but those for the execution of their places; which order is at once carried into execution.

——, 17 May.—An address to the King agreed upon, to be presented by Lord Dover.

——, 7, 11 June.—A letter to Lord Dover agreed on, promising to elect such members for parliament as shall comply with his Majesty in all his gracious intentions.

Ordered that all charters and muniments be brought to the hall, They are given to the new mayor on 19 July.

1688, 11 June.—A letter to be written to Lord Dover to request his favour to procure the holding of the next assizes for the county at Bury.

——, 28 June.—The following letter from Lord Dover was read.

"June 26, 1688.—Gentlemen, Some time since I received a letter from you very full of duty and loyalty to our King, which you desired I would communicate to his Majesty from your Corporation. I was extremely glad of so good an opportunity of serving a body of men I always much esteemed and ever had inclinations to be kind to. Your King was pleased to read your letter himself, seemed much satisfied to find such an alteration in Bury, commanded me to thank you for it, and to assure you from him that as he expects you will make good your word to him, so likewise his Majesty will most inviolably keep whatever he has promised in his Declaration.

"After having obeyed his Majesty's commands, give me leave in my own particular to return my sincere acknowledgments for your kind expressions to me. If ever it be in my power to deserve it from you, assure yourselves I shall do it with all the readiness imaginable, and not more than you ought to expect from one that is so much, Gentlemen, your affectionate humble servant,

"Dover."

——, 19 July.—The deputy-recorder, John Sotheby, and the town-clerk, Thomas Hustler, removed by order from the King and Council of 6 July, and Edmund Coleman and Jonathan Perry admitted by order of 7 July, without taking any oaths but those for the execution of their offices.

——, 10 Aug.—Edmund Coleman sworn in as Recorder with *all the oaths according to the statutes*, and a common-council man admitted in the same manner, taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy and the oath mentioned in stat. 13 Car. II. cap. 1.

——, 23 Aug.—Two aldermen sworn in as assistant justices, taking all the statutory oaths.

——, 18 Sept.—Order from the Privy Council for removing two aldermen (Thomas Burrough and Thomas Hustler, of whom the latter had been appointed on 16 March) and four common-council-men (of whom two had been appointed on 14 May) and appointing certain others in their places without any oaths but that for the execution of their office.

——, 12 Oct.—Two addresses to the King submitted for consideration, of which one was passed by a majority, to be presented by some of the members with all possible expedition. It is ordered to be entered in the book, but the page which follows is left blank.

——, 22 Oct.—The King's proclamation for restoring corporations is read, and entered at length; and the charter of surrender made to Charles II. not being enrolled in any of the courts, and all persons appointed since by any patent or grant being dismissed by the proclamation, Martin Spencely, gent., is elected alderman under the old charter, and all the surviving members of the old Corporation are restored and the places vacant by death filled up.

——, 12 Jan.—Sir Rob. Davers, bart., and Sir Tho. Hervey, knt., elected members for the convention-parliament.

——, 19, 24 Jan.—John Covell elected town-clerk; he takes the oath for due execution of his office, and signs the statutory declaration,

but the Recorder refuses to administer the oaths of allegiance and supremacy "in regard King James had left the realm, and it was conceived those oaths would be abrogated and new oaths appointed in their stead.

1689 [-90], 6 March.—Sir Rob. Davers, bart., and Henry Goldwell, esq., elected for parliament.

——, 17 March.—The town music discharged from future service in attending the Corporation, *nemine contradicente.*

1690 [-91], 16 March.—Whereas endeavours have been made for some years, and in all likelihood will be in the future, to prevail with the judges to hold the assizes for Suffolk at Ipswich, now, forasmuch as the conveniency of the shire-house at Bury is beyond that of theirs at Ipswich, which with respectful and generous entertainment of the judges and their associates, officers and attendants, will very much conduce to prevail with them to continue the assizes at this place, which entertainment must be answerable to their qualities and expectations, and not inferior to what is offered them in other places, it is recommended to the innholders, vintners, butchers, bakers, and such like retailers of provision, to forthwith subscribe a competent sum of money, proportionable to each man's takings, which will certainly return to their advantage.

1691, 7 May.—One arch in the north "oyle" of Moses Hall excepted from a lease of the building.

II.—The second volume, containing 665 numbered pages and leaves, extends from 21 Dec. 1693 to 22 Dec. 1767, and is a very full and complete register. An index of matters, written on loose sheets, lies in the volume, and there are also two separate index-books of matters and names, one to the year 1713, the other to 1767.

1695, 11 Oct.—The offer of 80*l. per an.* or of the tithes great and small is made to the ministers of the two parishes, archd. Nich. Clagett and Mr. Mich. Batt; and on 25 Jan. they accept the former offer, subject to payment of parliamentary taxes.

——, 11 Oct.—Mr. John Bull, curate of St. James's, to reside within the borough before Christmas and to officiate in his office, or to be discharged. He is "amoved for non-residence" on 21 May, 1703.

1696, 9 Apr.—An "Association" in defence of King William and in abhorrence of the conspiracy against him, signed by the Corporation and inhabitants.

1698, 20 March.—The cage and pillory to be removed from their present place, and set up against the workhouse or castle wall.

1707, 10 May.—Dr. Francis Hutchinson requested to print the admirable sermon preached by him at St. James's on 1 May upon the celebration of the happy union of England and Scotland, and thanks returned to him for his great labour therein.*

1708, 29 Apr.—Schedule of irons and goods in the gaol. The list commences with "Widowes arms and bolts, three neck-collars"; there are thirty-two "bassils."

1710, 10 June.—Ordered that there be engraved upon the large piece of plate, used for a punch-bowl, given by the Lady Hervey, wife of

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* This sermon was reprinted by Bishop Hutchinson at Dublin in 1734, at the end of his *Defence of the ancient Historians.*

John lord Hervey, the cause of the gift, and the arms of lord Hervey and his wife and of the Corporation.

1711, 18 Aug.—Thanks to be presented to John lord Hervey for the present of his picture.

1713, 20 Aug.—Thanks to be returned to Thomas Sutton, gent., for a present made by him of a picture of John Sutton, gent., his late uncle, a pious benefactor to this borough.

1714, 11 Sept.—Address to George I. on his accession.

1715, 19 Sept.—Address to him on threatened invasion from abroad and riots and rebellions at home.

1718, 11 Dec.—100*l.* given by the Earl of Bristol in consequence of the town having been long afflicted with the small pox, for the relief of the families of the greatest sufferers.

1720, 8 Dec.—Dr. Fr. Hutchinson resigned his place as minister of St. James's, on being appointed bishop of Down and Connor.

1722, 16 Oct.—Mr. Benj. Malfalguirat, or Malfalgueyrat, surgeon, elected a common-council-man. He was elected one of the chief burgesses 19 July, 1735, and on 7 June in that year Misael Remon Malfalquyerat, surgeon, was admitted as one of the common-council.

1724, 4 Aug.—Four persons are appointed to be the town music. On 4 Oct. 1733 five persons are appointed to be "the corporation music and town waits," with a salary of 40*s.* each yearly.

1727, 4 May.—Address to George II. on the war with Spain.

1728, 16 Dec.—Order for the repair of the maces. 25*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* paid on 21 Aug. 1729 for their repair.

1732, 8 March.—Resignation by Dr. Rob. Butts of his office of lecturer at St. James's on being appointed bishop of Norwich.

1734, 13 Aug.—Ordered that St. Matthew's fair shall not for the future be continued longer than 2 Oct.; advertisements to that effect to be inserted in the Bury newspapers and the *Whitehall Evening Post*.

——, 24 Oct.—Ordered that the scholars of the Free Grammar School have liberty to act plays at the playhouse over the market cross at any time before 10 Nov. next gratis, they making good all damage that shall be done thereby to the playhouse or seats or scenes there.

1735, 28 March.—Ordered that all leases, writings and evidences relating to the Corporation be brought in, to be deposited in the Evidence house.

1737, 19 Apr.—Order regulating burials in the chancels of the two churches.

1745, 19 Sept.—Address to George II. upon the rebellion "in favour of an abjured pretender, by the dregs of a restless motley faction, outlaws and abandoned men, irreconcileable to one another in every other principle and view but that of overturning our happy establishment."

1748, 18 Aug.—Five guineas to be paid to Mr. Thomas Warren towards the expense he has been at in taking the plan of this town, and for the plan presented by him to the Corporation.

[This plan now hangs in a room in the Guild Hall, framed and glazed.]

1751, 22 Aug.—Bequest by the Earl of Bristol of 200*l.* for the poor.

1760, 29 Nov.—A lengthy address to Geo. III. upon his accession.

1761, 27 March.—Consent given for the taking down of the five gates of the town on account of their ruinous and dangerous condition. On 6 June, 1765, a committee is appointed for the taking down of the West gate, who report on 22 Aug. that it has been taken down at a cost of 10*l.* 9*s.*, and the materials sold for 10*l.* 10*s.*

1762, 28 Oct.—Address to the King on the birth of the Prince of Wales, and on the victories gained by sea and land.

1767, 20 Aug.—The sergeants-at-mace and the beadles when they have new coats once in two years to have at the same time hats laced with gold lace.

III. The third volume of the Minutes contains 300 pp. and extends from 18 March 1768 to 19 Apr. 1805; and the fourth volume, of 614 pp., from 9 Aug. 1805 to 21 Dec. 1835. These volumes are indexed.

The municipal regalia consist of two silver-gilt maces, 36½ inches long, each of them having on a circular cup-shaped top the rose, thistle, harp, and fleur-de-lis, each set between the initials C R, with a circlet of crosses, and fleurs-de-lis above and the royal arms within; the whole surmounted by a crown with orb and cross. Round the lower part of the stem is the inscription, "New cast in 1729. W^m^ Allen, Ald^n^," as noticed in the extracts from the Minute books above. This must, however, refer only to the stem, since the upper part is evidently original, but repaired. The goldsmith's initials R.C. are on one of the maces, but without date letter; the other mace has no mark. The initials R.C. are not infrequently found on plate of the early years of the reign of Charles I., but the name they represent is not known. The sword of state is 51½ inches long, of which the blade measures about 37. It has a massive silver handle, on one side of which is a figure of Justice, sitting, with sword and scales, and on the other a sitting figure holding a charter with four seals pendent. There is no goldsmith's mark or year-letter. The upper part of the blade is ornamented with arabesque gilding. It is enclosed in a red velvet sheath, having solid silver ornaments on both sides of crown and garter, rose and crown, the borough arms, &c. There are two halberds.

IV. MUNIMENT ROOM AT THE GUILDHALL.

The earliest deeds relating to the town property are concerned with the possessions of the hospital of St. Peter, which are now attached to the Grammar School. They are contained in a parcel of documents chiefly of the time of Henry III. and Edw. I. But one is found amongst these of the time of Hen. II., which is as follows:—"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Salomon de Wepstede concessi et dedi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi ad hospitale sancti Petri extra portam de Risebi suburbio sancti Ædmundi duodecim denariatos redditus ad luminaria coram altare sancte Marie infra ecclesie (*sic*) predicti hospitalis sancti Petri, percipiendos predictos denarios de Stephano filio Durondi de Neutone de illa terra que [*sic*] tenuit de me, et que jacet inter terram predicti Stephani et terram que fuit Gileberto [*sic*] fil. Gileberti de garra, percipiendos predictos duodecim denarios de predicto Stephano et

de heredibus suis ad duos terminos anni, scilicet al Pascha vi. den. et ad fest. S. Mich. vi. den. Et ideo volo et concedo ut hec donacio firma sit et stabilis in elemosina pro anima mea, et parentum meorum in perpetuum. Hiis testibus, domino Roberto de Hornigeserde, domino Roberto de Hauste, Adam de Phalesha preposito Sancti Ædmundi, Wdardo aldermanno, Roberto clerico de Neutune, Radulfo filio suo et Waltero filio suo, Thome [*sic*] filio Salemanni, Waltero filio Gerardi, Ancelmo filio Aldredi." Small oval seal: "Sigillum Salomonis."

The following are specimens of the other oldest deeds found in the same parcel:—

1. *Temp.* Hen. III. or Edw. I.—Grant from William son of Robert de Hepewr[th] to Walter son of Stephen, for 3*s.* of half an acre in Hepewr[th] called Gustes. Witn. Sir Will. de Neketun, John son of Ralph, Nicholas son of Foleker, &c. Seal lost.
2. *Temp.* Hen. III.—Grant from Willian son of Thomas de Garboldesham and Mary his mother, daughter of John de Whepstede. to the hosp. of St. Peter of 14½*d.* of annual rent paid by Benedict de Schardebroc for a meadow at Schardebroc in Whepstede. Witn. Sir Henry de Neketune, Sir Tho. de Ickewurthe, Sir John de Welnetham, knts., &c. Seal lost.
3. *Temp.* Hen. III.—Grant from Scientia widow of Gilbert de la Gaye to the hosp. of St. Peter of 10*s.* of annual rent from a building in Bury, in return for which Robert de Baketone, clerk, then prior of the hosp., and the brethren, grant to her one weekly mass for her soul, the souls of her ancestors, and the souls of the brethren dying in the hospital, for ever; and what is left of the rent after paying for the masses is to be given in shoes to the brethren. If any one should endeavour to make the grant void, let him know that he will be excommunicated by the mouth of *dom.* Clement de Salomondesford, almoner of St. Eadmund. Witn. Sir Stephen, alderman of St. Eadmund, Jocey and Thomas, provosts, John son of Luke, &c. Seal of donor, indistinct; a figure kneeling before another under a canopy.
4. *Temp.* Hen. III.—Indenture of release from William de Liveremere prior of the hosp. of St. Peter, and the brethren, to John le Ferur of Bury of 4*s.* out of an annual rent of 10*s.* from a shop in Mustowe. A street called *Frenkysemanestrete* is mentioned. Witn. Geoffrey son of Robert, alderman, Nicholas son of Fulk, bailiff, Richard le Crosier, John de Pastone, &c. Small seal.
5. *Temp.* Hen. III.?—Grant from John son of Warin the smith of Heppurhe to Thomas son of Will. de Bucham for 5*s.* of one rood and a half in the field of Heppurhe called Whatecroft. Witn. John son of Ralph, Nich. de Cunegester, Fraric, &c. Seal lost.
6. *Temp.* Edw. I.—Grant from Thomes de Stantone to Will. le Bret for 8*s.* of land in the parish ("parochia") of Heppeworth. Witn. Robert le Engynuir, Will. de Thelnetham, Ralph Thurald, &c. Oval seal: "Sig. decani de Thomsant" (?)

[Robert le Engynur, of Westone, witnesses the following dated deed of 1290, and with Ralph Thurald that of 1295.]

7. [1290] 18 Edw. I.—Grant from John Gris to William le Bret and Isabella his wife.
8. [1295] 23 Edw. I.—Grant from Walter son of Adam Baf of Heporthe to William le Bret.

Rent-roll: "Redditus Johannis le Bret de Heppeworth;" apparently at the beginning of the 14th cent., about the end of the reign of Edw. I.

Taxation roll of the town of Bury, 14 Edw. III., 1340. "Taxacio pro ix^{a} garbarum, vellerum et agnorum domino Regi concess. a^{o} r. r. Edw. tercii a conquestu xiiij." The acreage of the land comprised in the taxation is thus summed up:—"Summa tocius vill. terre burg. ix^{c} xli acr. Summa tocius preter sacrist. m^{c}. vi^{c}. iiij^{xx} xvii acr. et dim." The total money-value of the tax is 9*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*

Long roll of accounts of the Treasurer or Chamberlain of the abbey, mutilated in the heading, by which the words marking the date are lost. The treasurer was one Nicholas, and the period is that of the abbacy of W[illiam de Burnham], who was abbot from 1335 to 1361. Internal evidence, however, narrows the limit of years to 1349—1353.

Specially notable entries are the following. In expenses on visits of the King on 1 March and of the Queen on the morrow of the Assumption [16 Aug.] 78*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, including a palfrey for the Prince 9*l.*, for the King 20*l.*, and 20*l.* given to the Queen in money. The special provisions bought cost 12*l.* 13*s.* 3½*d.* Gifts to lords Mortimer and John Lyle. [Roger Mortimer was restored to the barony in 1348 and created earl of March in 1354; lord L'Isle was killed in France in Feb. 1355.] Gifts to the judges Rich. de Kelsille [1342–55] and Geoffrey de Hedirsete. [This judge's name does not seem to be met with: Simon de Hedirsete was a justice itinerant in the earlier years of the reign of Edw. III.] Twenty-six shillings and eightpence were paid to Ellen Hochard for debts of [the preceding] Abbot Richard [de Draughton]. Total of receipts, 750*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*; of expenses, 542*l.* 17*s.* 1½*d.*

1378–1481. Six rolls of bailiffs' accounts of the manor of the Grange, for the years 1-2 Rich. II, 2–3, 13–14 Hen. IV., 38 Hen. VI., 9 and 20–21 Edw. IV.

One drawer is filled with terriers, of which the earliest is of the lands of John Odeham in Bury, Great and Little Horningsheath, and Westlee, 10 March, 8 Edw. IV. [1468].

1520–1.—"Computus dompni Johannis Fynnyngham et Simonis Berdwell, feretrar. monast. S. Edmundi," from Mich. 12 to Mich. 13 Hen. VIII. The following are a few of the interesting items in this roll: "Hominibus et mulieribus de bano ad f. Pentecostes pro custodia baculorum peregrinorum per annum ij^{s} [*i e.* payment to persons within the abbey district for taking charge of pilgrims' staves] Item, xii junioribus confratribus nostris pro turribulis portandis ad dictum festum, xxiiij^{s}. Item, duobus feretrariis pro suo labore per annum, iiij^{li}." 12^{d} for ginger for the Prior in Lent. "Pro beornis (?) emptis pro le Oo, xij^{d}. Pro pane empto pro vipis paradisi iiij^{d}. [Paradise-food, Paradise-sops, bread steeped in wine so called?] Pro Malvesee empto pro dictis vipis, iiij^{d}." Spiced bread and Malmsey for the prior. "In farina pro nebulis ij^{d}. [fine fancy bread]; in bastardo [Spanish wine] pro eisdem ij^{d}." Strong beer; cloves; 9 lbs. of almonds, 22^{d}; 8 lbs. of "ryss," 16^{d}; 1 lb. "ryss flower" [rice-flour] 4^{d}; 1 oz. cinnamon 4^{d}; &c. To minstrels on St. Edmund's day, in the absence of the abbot 3*s.* To men who came with a camel, by the prior's order, 1*d.* To the [boy-]bishop of St. Nicholas, 12*d.* To the minstrels of the King, the Prince, and lord Curson, and to others playing in the hall, by order of the prior, 2*s.* 4*d.* An altar "juxta pietatem beate Marie" [the Image of Pity] is mentioned. Sixpence was given weekly "in elemosina monialibus de banco" (?) To a monk of St. Katharine's "montis Sinay" twelve pence were given by the prior's order; and ten shillings for a contribution made for St. James's Church in Bury. A fee of 10*s.* was customarily paid by the shrine-keepers, together with other fees from the rest of the obedientiaries, on the occasion of theological degrees

being taken at the universities by members of the Abbey, and we here find this sum paid to Edward Rowham "pro gradu doctoris theologie suscipiendo, secundum antiquam consuetudinem," with 6*s.* 8*d.* added by the prior's order.* For cleaning St. Edmund's sword 4*d.*; for repairing it 6*d.*; to the two shrine-keepers for carrying it through the year, 5*s.* To *dom.* Richard Stowe, precentor, for the year, 34*s.* For expenses about the singers in the chapel of St. Robert, in the time of divine service on his feast, 2*s.* 9*d.* To *dom.* John Eye, the penitentiary, for the said chapel, 3*s.* 4*d.* Sum of receipts 37*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; of expenses 36*l.* 16*s.* 1½*d.*

William Dunn Macray.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE CORPORATION OF HERTFORD.

The Corporation of Hertford, acting under the advice of their town clerk, Mr. Charles Elton Longmore, have lately placed their muniments in a fire-proof room in the Corporation Buildings. The records are in the utmost disorder and many require repair, but it is satisfactory that they are, at any rate, now kept together, and in a safe place of deposit. Mr. Longmore kindly provided me with a shorthand writer and with his assistance I was able in a short time to note some of the more important documents as I came upon them. These shorthand notes, I subsequently sorted, and the result is shown in the following report.

I believe the Corporation propose, hereafter, to have these documents listed, put into classes, and placed on shelves in the fire-proof room. I may say that the indictments and entries in the book of proceedings at the Mayor's Court contain matter of great topographical value.

During my visit to Hereford I received much valuable assistance from Mr. R. T. Andrews, whose local antiquarian knowledge was exceedingly useful.

W. J. Hardy.

Royal Charters.

These include an assignment of dower, *temp.* Edward I., to Queen Margaret; market charter of Edward III. (and confirmations by Henry IV., Henry V., Edward IV., &c.); a grant of fairs by Queen Mary; a general charter of pardon by Henry VIII.; confirmation charters by Mary, Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., and Charles II.; and a grant by Charles II. (16 August, 1670) to the Mayor and Corporation of fines payable under the Conventicle Act.

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* In Mr. C. W. Boase's *Register of the Univ. of Oxf.*, 1885, p. 109, he appears under the year 1519 in this entry:—"Rowham Edmund [*read* Edward] Benedictine, B.D., disp. 27 March, 1519, 14 Apr." He was sacrist in 1537–8; see p. 4.

Deeds.

Undated.—Copies of (1) charter by Robert, bishop of Lincoln, concerning an agreement between the monks of Bermondsey and Hugh de Engayne as to the church of the Blessed Mary of Hertford; and (2) a deed relating to the church of Bengeo.

5th of the kalends of January, 6 Edward II.—Settlement of dispute between the Prior and Monks of St. Mary, Hertford, and the Burgesses of the vill of Hertford concerning common of pasture at Le Holmes.

1 Richard II.—Grant by Richard Clarke, of Hertford, to Richard Mildenhale of a stall in the market place at Hertford.

14 July, 21 Henry VI.—Extent of the castle and vill of Hertford.

11 January, 8 Elizabeth.—Agreement between the Bailiff and Burgesses of Hertford and John Meston, as to premises in All Saints' parish, Hertford.

11 October, 1669.—Articles of agreement between Sir Thomas Pye and the Mayor and Burgesses of Hertford as to the navigation of the river Lea.

25 March, 1702.—Trust deed of land on which to erect a new goal in Hertford, for the county.

1738.—Agreement between the Corporation of Hertford and the New River Company.

[Numerous other deeds of topographical interest.]

Records of the Borough Court.

Pleas, indictments, &c.; originals and entries thereof in volumes and in rolls, from 1589 to the year 1840 or thereabouts.

Records of the Court of Quarter Sessions, 1728 to 1835.

Records of the Months' or Mayor's Court, 1596 to 1832.

Records of Petty or Special Sessions, 1663 to 1819.

Manor Court Rolls.

Hertford, 36 Edward III. to Richard III. (An interesting series.)

Corporation Papers.

These include:—

1617.—Draft Bye-laws.

1621.—Survey of the Borough.

1621, May 16.—Declaration against Mr. Wright. States that at the date of the declaration it was agreed that the new mayor should, at his own cost, provide a feast to the late mayor and the chief burgesses and assistants. Mr. Wright refused to give this feast.

1674, August 24.—Indenture between the mayor and burgesses of Hertford, and Ursula Burgess, of London, widow of Thomas Burgess. Recites that living in or near the said borough were divers persons who resorted to conventicles, and that the mayor and burgesses had been very diligent in executing the law against such persons; in consideration of this the King bestowed upon the mayor and burgesses and their successors, all fines and forfeitures of those convicted, under the sum of 300*l.*, from the 29th of November 1670, less one third part thereof which he retained. The money was paid to the hands of the late Thomas Burgess, who died before rendering any account thereof. The indenture witnesses that, for the sum of 100*l.* the mayor, &c. acquit the said Ursula from rendering account to them of any sums received.

1631.—Table of wages fixed by the Justices of the Peace.

1635, January 18.—Ratification by the Lord Keeper of Constitutions for the borough.

1637, March 7.—A bundle of briefs for the collection of money for sufferers by the fire which happened in Hertford on the previous 20th September, doing damage to the value of 400*l.*

1677, August 18.—Levy of a rate for the rebuilding and making of a certain ancient bridge in Hertford called Cowbridge, at a cost of 38*l.* 4*s.*

1683, March 25.—Foundation deed of John Chauncy's charity for providing sermons, &c., for condemned prisoners on the morning of their executions. (Printed in abstract in Turner's History of Hertford, pp. 369–70.) With supplemental deed relating to the payment of those engaged to preach these sermons, in the event of reprieves.

1692, 10 October.—Constitutions, Acts, and Ordinances made by consent of the Mayor, Recorder, &c., of the borough, and by authority of Letters Patent, for the government of the inhabitants of the said borough.

1709–1711.—Papers relating to the repair of the Town Hall.

1731, September 7.—Bye-laws respecting freemen.

1752, May 20.—Bye-laws restraining persons not "free," from trading.

1768 (?).—Specification for building the Town Hall.

1773, March 16.—Estimate given to the mayor for building, at a cost of 32*l.*, "a cadge," 6 feet long and 6 feet wide, and a pair of stocks and whipping post at one end of the stocks.

Letters, &c.

1610 (?), April 29.—The Earl of Salisbury to the Mayor, &c. of Hertford.

"His Majesty's House at Whytehale." "I have been informed that there is a report in the town of Hertford that the cross in the markett is to be puled doune, and not only that, but that some officers of mine should be in speech for buying the lead, and I have thought good, hereby, to require you to let me know by what

authority the same is ordered to be taken down. And also to command you, or any other whom it concerns, to forbear to proceed therein before I have made his Majesty acquainted with it, at your utmost perill. Next, because I have herd of a lewd report that some of my officers have presumed to bargain for the lead belonging to the same, which I can hardly believe, bycause I know none I keepe that wold medle with any such matter without my privity, I thought good to desire you to let me know who they be that have been in speech with you about it, of which, as I hear, Mr. Gravenor or Mr. Manistey of your company can advertise you hereof." (*Signed.*)

[1610].—John Shairley, mayor, and others to "Mr George Battell, at New Inn."

"Mr. Battell . . . . . this is to let you understand that we received a letter from my Lord Treasurer which we have herein inclosed, wherein we desire your help, by the direction of Mr. Steward, to give answer thereof to my Lord. For the matter, you do understand as well as ourselves, and, therefore, if you penne a letter and set our hand to it, I hope it will be sufficient. We sell (*sic*) it by a consent amongst ourselves to pay that we owe; it was builded by townsmen. We have set up a better building in the place, which supplies the use of the crosse, and of greater worth. And further, the crosse is a thing decayed, and so have no use for it. We would be loth that any towards my Lord should be blamed for it, but rather say, if it please you, that we did make offer thereof to Mr. Shawe."

[1610.]—Copy Petition by John Shairley [Sherley], Mayor of Hertford, and the Corporation, to the Earl of Salisbury, Lord High Treasurer.

"Whereas Right Honourable, by your letters, we understand how your honour hath been informed touchinge our intended disposinge of an old markett Crosse, standing in our markett-place, and that some of your honour's officers are dealers therein, with intent to buy the same, and your honour doth also command that noe further proceedings should be therein, and to be certyfied by what authoritye the said Crosse was ordered to be pulled downe . . . . . and doe certyfie your Lordship our case and proceedings therein. . . . . The Castle of Hertford, late used for keeping the assisses of the county, being taken away, and the assisses, also, very likely to have been kept; for want of convenient room to sett the justices in, your honour's petitioners, for the good of the poor towne have (to ther great charge) new built a large and convenient house which serveth for the same justices' sitting, and also for the market, and in the place where the same Crosse stoode. After the moving of which Crosse, your honour's petitioners finding the town to be indebted for the new building, and that the said Crosse was of small use, and like to be a charge to them to repair, taking some learned advyse therein, that it was lawful for them to dispose of it, the Maior, and more part of the petitioners, consented to take yt down and sell yt for money towards payment of [the] debt owing for the said new house." The petitioners offered to sell the same to your honour's servant, Mr. Shawe, who has made no answer. "The Crosse, Right Honourable, thus standing, the petitions in all humility appeal to your Lordship's censure, and humbly desire your Honour's favourable respect of the said pore town indebted."

1623–4, February 9.—The Duchy Council to the Mayor and Burgesses of Hertford, recommending a member of Parliament.

1624, April 24.—The Prince's Council Chamber, at Denmark House, in the Strand, to the Mayor, &c. of Hertford, as to the election of a member of Parliament.

1633, June 28.—John Kitchen (?) to the Mayor, &c. of Hertford, as to the removal of the assizes from Hertford to St. Albans.

1650, June 9 (?), Hertford.—The parishioners of All Saints to "the Right Worshipful Dr. Gabriel Barber." We earnestly entreat your help in the speedy confirming, by the committee for plundered ministers, or otherwise, of Mr. William Tuker to be minister of the parish of All Saints in Hertford.

[1650?].—Petitions from "seven score" householders of All Saints parish in Hertford, to the House of Commons, in favour of appointing a weekly lecturer.

1668, September 28. Whitehall.—The Council to the Sheriff of Hertford. The King forbids the re-admittance of those persons formerly displaced from offices in the Corporation.

1671, May 16. Exchequer Office.—A. Sparke to Thomas Burgess, at Hertford. "There is great probability Mr. Solicitor will be made Lord Chief Baron, which will cause a vacancy as M.P. for the borough; Sir Edward [Turnor] desires this may be filled by his son.

1675, November 27. Lincoln's Inn Fields.—Thomas Pye to the Mayor of Hertford. Sending money for disposal after an election.

1677.—Articles of agreement for building Cowbridge. A brick bridge to be erected in one month.

1678.—Petition of "loyal subjects" of the town of Hertford to the King. There are some of their town "of inferior qualities" who call themselves "the Mayor and Chief Burgesses," and assume authority against right. *Endorsed* "Copy of Mr. Clarke's scandalous Petition."

1680, November 4.—H. Chauncy to Edward Lawrence, Mayor of Hertford. As to bribery at the election.

1685, May 5.—William Cooper to Sir Henry Chauncey, as to his attendance at Court.

1696, July 15.—"Declaration" by the Mayor, &c., congratulating the King on his escape from a papistical conspiracy, and acknowledging him as King.

1698, August 23.—Thomas Turnor to Sir Henry Chauncey, Recorder of Hertford, requests his attendance on the 26th September next at an enquiry concerning the office of Recorder of Hertford.

1698.—Report of Thomas Turnor, made to the King on the petition of the Mayor, &c. of Hertford, complaining of the proceedings of 18 persons residing within the borough. He finds that one of the persons who subscribed the petition was indicted for the speaking of scandalous words against the magistrates; also that Sir William Cowper used scandalous words (set out) against the Mayor, Aldermen, and Recorder.

1700.—Petition of the inhabitants of Hertford to Parliament, as to their voting at elections.

1702, August 12.—Copy of corporation proceedings touching the discharge of Charles Fox, gentleman, from his office of town clerk, and confirmation of Ralph Willymott in that office.

1705.—Petition of inhabitants of Hertford against the return of Mr. Goulston as their member.

1706.—Petition to the Queen respecting the creating of freemen.

1717, August 15.—Certificate of a marriage celebrated at Datchworth, Hertfordshire, between Thomas Hodges, junior, esquire, and Mary Hallett, daughter of the late John Hallett, of Barbadoes. Witness, Mrs. Sarah Hallett, widow of the said John.

1721, May 23. Hertford.—M. Noble to the Mayor, &c. of Hertford, patrons of the Free School. He designs to leave the Free School, and hopes the successor he intends to suggest will be approved.

1728, October 12.—"Allegations against Mr. Willymott, containing lies from beginning to ending."

1781, October 17.—"Mr. Baker," M.P. for Hertford, to Benjamin Cherry, mayor, enclosing 11 guineas which he understands is the usual sum advanced by each of the borough members towards the expenses of the Mayor's feast.

1796.—Petition to the House of Commons against the wet docks.

1837, &c.—Various letters relating to the Free School, including one from Lord Melbourne.

Undated.—Petition against Marmaduke Allington, recorder of the borough.

Undated.—Petition to Lord Cowper by divers inhabitants of Hertford complaining that the mayor, &c., appropriate charity money.

Lists of Persons, Trades, &c. (Various).

These include a list of innholders in 1623; of voters at elections (various dates); and of buyers and sellers of corn, with the signs of their shops, 1635.

Papers relating to Apprenticeships and Freedoms.

1624–1685.—Apprentice books.

1630 (*circa*)–1650.—Indentures of apprenticeship.

1635 to 1792.—Apprenticeship bonds and tests.

1645.—A bundle of apprenticeship indentures.

1675–1682.—Lists of freemen.

1680–1740 *circa*.—Alphabetical list of freemen.

1721 (after).—List of freemen and "housekeepers" with particulars as to their apprenticeships.

1780 (*circa*).—Persons summoned to take up their freedoms.

1820–1837.—Admission of freemen.

1826–1837.—Apprenticeship indentures, &c.

Accounts.

These include those of the administration of charities in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Rate Books and Rolls.

These exist for various dates from 1625 until recent times. The first is levied on the whole borough for the relief of such persons "as now are, or hereafter may be, infected by the plague." In 1637 is the return of a rate on the whole borough levied "towards furnishing of one ship for His Majesty's service"; and in the same year one for building "Pest Houses." There are returns of the rate levied for the entertainment of judges for the following dates:—1677–1686, 1690–1699, 1701–1710, and 1714–1726.

Sacrament Certificate and Oath Rolls.

These exist from 1680 until recent times.

Recognizance Books.

1623–1659.—These include lists of the inns within the borough in 1623 and 1637.

Miscellaneous Books.

1644–1736.—Town rents.

1794.—Corporation rent-roll.

1632–1786.—Examinations at sessions.

1638–1708.—Rates, All Saints parish.

1636–1637.—Accounts, All Saints parish.

1687–1723.—Sessions papers, affidavits, pleadings, &c.

1621–1750, 1763–1791.—Sessions minutes.

A book containing various memoranda as to Mr. Noble's charity.

W. J. Hardy.

MUNIMENTS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF WORCESTER.

The records of the Prior and Convent, and of their successors the Dean and Chapter, of the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, Worcester, are preserved in a room adjoining the Bishop's Registry in the Gateway Tower, to which they were removed in recent years from the long chamber over the south aisle of the nave of the church, where is now the cathedral library. The muniments have in past times suffered considerably from damp and from the ravages of mice. At present there is no danger of damp since fires are constantly kept in two or three of the adjoining rooms, and both in January and April I have found the documents in a satisfactorily dry condition. It is right, however, to add that the room in which the muniments are stored, while separated by a massive stone wall from the Clerk's Office of the Registry, is divided only by a light partition from the Registrar's room; and in both these rooms there are open fires unprotected by guards. I also observe that the cupboards in the muniment room itself are not, nor is the door of the room, kept locked, so that all the records are open to the servant who cleans the rooms in the morning and to anyone who may chance to obtain access to them while the servant is otherwise engaged. I would venture to urge upon the Dean and Chapter the desirability of purchasing a safe large enough to hold at least the older volumes and deeds, or else to have the muniment room itself made fireproof. If a change of this sort were carried out it would be advisable to have shelves made sufficiently roomy to allow of the books standing upright. As it is, they are subjected to a great deal of unnecessary friction and ill-usage in consequence of their being stored in piles. The charters, which are preserved in drawers, ought to be laid out flat, or nearly so, instead of being folded in small squares and tied up in bundles with string. It is also most desirable that they should all be furnished with numbers and so arranged that it should be possible to verify a particular reference without a long search through several drawers. At present, even in the case of those charters which have received a pencilled number and been roughly calendared, it is impossible to say with certainty in which of several drawers they are contained: it is necessary to go through the tied-up bundles in a drawer packed full of documents, only to find perhaps that the document bearing a particular number is not among them. An attempt was indeed made nearly seventy years ago to establish a regular system of numbering and arrangement; but this system (as Bishop Edmund Hobhouse observed when he examined the collection in 1881) is now broken up, and the numbers supply no certain guide to the whereabouts of the documents.

I.—The Priors' Register *Sede Vacante*.

Of the two classes of documents into which the collection is naturally divided, (1) books, and (2) deeds, letters, and miscellaneous papers, I take the former first*; but before enumerating the registers and ledgers in their order, it is convenient to mention one book which stands altogether by itself among the muniments. This is the Registrum Sede Vacante, a register drawn up after the pattern of a bishop's register, and in the name, not of the prior and convent, but of

* The only printed list of these volumes approaching completeness is that given by T. Nash, Collections for the History of Worcestershire, vol. ii., App. p. xciv. (1782). A description of some of them will be found in J. Noake's Monastery and Cathedral of Worcester, intr. pp. xxv–xxx (1866).

the prior alone, acting as official and administrator of spirituals in the diocese during the vacancy of the see. The register includes the deeds relating to the institution and deprivation of clerks; the collation of dignities and benefices; the receipts of wardships, fines, and other revenues; and the records of visitations, of ecclesiastical causes, and of the exercise of the entire episcopal jurisdiction vested in the prior during the vacancy by virtue of a Composition made between archbishop Boniface of Canterbury and the prior in 1268. It contains also the lists of persons ordained by the bishops of Llandaff, Enaghduñ [Annadown], and other sees, acting under the authority of the prior. The book begins with the vacancy caused by the death of Bishop Godfrey Giffard, 26 January 1301–2, and extends to 1434, during the interval between the death of bishop Polton and the appointment of bishop Bourchier. This volume has been taken in hand by the Worcestershire Historical Society for publication by means of a calendar, and is intended to form the first of a series of editions of the Episcopal as well as Capitular Registers of Worcester.*

II.—The so-called Registrum Prioratus.

The so-called Registrum Prioratus was apparently unknown to William Thomas,† Nash, and Valentine Green.‡ It had been carried away from the church, presumably to Italy during the pontificates of the four Italian prelates who occupied the see from 1497 to 1535, and afterwards bound in red morocco, as it seems, by an Italian bookbinder. At this time the incorrect and misleading title of "Registrum sive Liber Irrotulatorius et Consuetudinarius Prioratus Beatæ Mariæ Wigornensis" was written on the second of six vellum leaves inserted at the beginning, and a table of contents on those following. On the foot of the title-page is written, "*E. M.S.S Thom. Astle*"; and the book is known to have been in the possession of Thomas Astle, afterwards keeper of the records in the Tower, in 1765§, but whence he acquired it is not stated. It was subsequently restored to the dean and chapter; but how and at what date, is not recorded in any of the papers in the muniment room that I have examined. Mr. Noake says it came as a present from Astle. The volume was edited by the late Archdeacon W. H. Hale for the Camden Society in 1865.‖ The title quoted above was understood by Hale to represent "most probably the original title." He assumed, it is evident, that the existing title and table of contents stood in place of an old and worn leaf (or leaves) removed at the time of binding. To this supposition there are several objections. First, the book is not strictly speaking a register at all. Although interspersed with occasional charters and miscellaneous documents, it is essentially a Rental of the monastery, written in a handy shape for carrying about on visitation of the various manors.¶ Secondly, it may be questioned whether at so early a date as the latter part of the thirteenth century, when the book was written, the style "Registrum *Prioratus*" would be used in preference to the form

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* The first fasciculus of this edition has been issued since this report was in type.

† Survey of the Cathedral Church of Worcester (1736).

‡ History and Antiquities of the City and Suburbs of Worcester (1796).

§ Archæologia, vol. viii. (1787) p. 440.

‖ Registrum sive Liber irrotulatorius et consuetudinarius Prioratus beatæ Mariæ Wigorniensis (1865).

¶ It should be noticed that the words "Explicit Registrum" on p. 174 of Hale's edition have been silently inserted and have nothing corresponding to them in the original.

"Prioris et Conventus" or "Monasterii." It was only by degrees that the prior obtained so commanding a position that his title could absorb that of the society over which he ruled; and at Worcester the great advance of the priorial dignity took place towards the middle of the fourteenth century. Thirdly, the spelling "Wigornensis" for "Wigorniensis" is of extremely rare occurrence in documents of the thirteenth century. It is curious that Hale should have silently changed it into "Wigorniensis" on his title page, while in the text of his book he uniformly prints "Wigornia" for the substantive and "Wigornensis" for the adjective, the manuscript itself offering only *Wigorñ* or *Wig'*. A practical objection to the use of the term "Register" for this Rental is that it introduces an unnecessary confusion with the regular and orderly series of Registers of the convent.

The book being already published, no account of it need here be given; but one point in connexion with it, the knowledge of which I owe to the kindness of Dr. Liebermann of Berlin, deserves a brief mention. On f. 16*a* there appear some excerpts from the so-called "Laws of Edward the Confessor," which present the text in its second redaction. Now the manuscript of the "Laws" in the Cathedral Library, cod. 87 folio, which I have examined and partially collated, was not written until about 1300 and gives the text in its earlier form without the changes and interpolations which it subsequently underwent. It may therefore be inferred that at one time the monastery of Worcester possessed two copies of the "Laws."

III.—The Liber Pensionum.

The Liber Pensionum is distinguished from the Registers by the fact that its contents, properly speaking, relate not to the property at large held by the church of Worcester but exclusively to its spiritual possessions and spiritual privileges. It comprises copies of deeds of confirmation of the churches appropriated to the monastery, grants of "pensions" or fixed payments due to the church of Worcester from certain churches in the diocese and from certain religious houses in respect of particular churches in the diocese appropriated to them. The documents range from the time of bishop Roger [1164–1179] to the beginning of the fifteenth century, which is the date of writing of the book. The ground of the payment of a pension by a religious house is usually expressed as in consideration of the advantage gained by it through the appropriation of the church, and of the trouble that might be given to the prior of Worcester in the event of a vacancy taking place in the see. Thus f. 4, "Pensatis equo libramine dampnis et interesse que, occasione consolidacionis et appropriacionis vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Wynchecome Wygorñ dioc' nobis et monasterio nostro predicto per venerabilem patrem et dominum, dominum Tidemannum, Dei gracia Wygorñ episcopum nuper facte, priori et capitulo ecclesie cathedralis Wygorñ quociens eiusdem ecclesie cathedralis sedem futuris temporibus vacare contigerit et alio modo accidere poterunt multipliciter in futurum," abbat William and the convent of Winchcombe agree to pay an "annuitas" or "census annuus" of 3*s.* 4*d.* to the said prior and chapter (1398). Another formula appears on f. 14, where the provost and scholars of the Queen's college at Oxford, desiring "in recompensacionem congruam fructuum seu emolumentorum, quos tempore vacacionis dicte ecclesie solent vel debent in futurum percipere, debitum reddere repensivum," bind themselves to pay 20*s.* of silver whenever there is a vacancy in the see. *Oxford* 1350.

Among the documents included in this book are :—

f. 5*b*. Agreement for the payment of 40*s*. in lieu of 100*s*. under conditions by the prior and convent of Great Malvern to the church of Worcester on the vacancy of the see. 1337.

f. 12. Award of B[artholomew] bishop of Exeter, delegated by the pope to decide a cause between the churches of Oseney and Worcester relating to the rights of the former in the church of Begeberia [Bibury, co. Glouc.]. For Oseney appeared Eadward abbat, Harding prior, and the canons; for Worcester, Roger bishop, Ralph prior, and the monks. *Witnesses :* Hamet of Gloucester, A. of Evesham, John of Messend' [Missenden], William of Lileshell [Lilleshall], abbats; Robert of Kenilworth, Rem. of Selford, priors; Robert of Oxford, R. of Surrey, Simon of Winchester, archdeacons; John dean of Chichester; John treasurer of Exeter; William dean of Lichfield; J. chancellor of Chichester; Master Moyses, Master Silvester, Robert monk, master Robert de Auc',* master Roger and Trustin, canons of Exeter; Osb. canon of Kenilworth, Philip canon of Derby, master Robert of Gildeford, Nicholas priest of Auinton [Avington], John of Lilleshell, Ascat' of Messend', canons. *Salisbury* 1173. This document shows that John of Salisbury (unless there was another John) held the office of treasurer of Exeter a year earlier than was previously known.†

f. 16. Confirmation by William [Courtenay] Archbishop of Canterbury of the various churches, pensions, and tithes, held by the church of Worcester. *Kempsey*, 29 October "anno ab incarnacione Domini secundum cursum et computacionem ecclesie Anglicane" 1384, Ind. VIII. anno pontif. Urban. VI. 7.

f. 17. Bull of Clement VI. appropriating the church of Croppethorne to the monastery. *Avignon*, 9 March, anno 8 [1350]. The special cause assigned is the need for repairing the cathedral church : "quod eadem ecclesia et eius campanile ac quamplura edificia prioratus eiusdem ecclesie, quorum refeccio et construccio ad eosdem priorem et capitulum noscitur pertinere, in tantum minantur ruinam et tanta ac tali refeccione indigent quod ad illa reficienda ac reparanda minime ipsorum prioris et capituli redditus sufficiunt, absque eo quod aliunde super hoc subveniatur eisdem; et quod ipsi prior et capitulum per hospitalitatem tam nobilium quam popularium ad ipsum prioratum confluencium, et propter sumptus necessarios circa defensionem iurium prioratus eiusdem nuper factos, ere alieno sunt multipliciter onerati, eciam et gravati; quodque redditus et proventus eorundem, propter obitum tenencium possessiones et bona ab eis qui tempore epidemie in illis partibus nuper ingruentis decesserunt, in magna parte diminuti existant," &c.

f. 18*b*. Confirmation by Clement VI. of the appropriation to the prior and chapter of the church of Overbury in their gift, in relief of their burthens and to assist them in sending two monks to study at Oxford ("pro supportacione huiusmodi onerum leviori ac sustentacion eduorum monachorum quos in Oxoniensi studio tenere oportet"), the latter obligation being made a condition of the grant. *Avignon :* 2 October anno 5 [1346].

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* *Auc'* written *Au*$_{\overline{c}}$, but the person is probably the Robert de Auco who is mentioned as holding the prebend of St. Pancras in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1145 and 1450 (Le Neve's Fasti Eccl. Anglic. ii. 423, ed. Hardy), and who was living in or after 1181 (9th Rep. of Hist. MSS. Comm., p. 68*a*, where he appears in company with dean Ralph de Diceto).

† Le Neve, i. 414.

f. 19*b*. Appropriation by Clement VI. of the church of Wolvardeley [Wolverley] to the prior and convent, substantially in the same terms as those cited above with reference to Croppethorn. *Avignon:* 11 June anno 10 [1351].

f. 26. Inspeximus by John [Green], prior (1388), of inspeximus of Henry [Wakefield], bishop, of a chirograph of a fine levied in the king's court for a month from Easter 49 Henry III. [1265] between John, master of the Carnaria at Worcester, and Walter [of Cantelupe], bishop, and of the deed of the said bishop Walter establishing four chaplains in the chapel of the Carnaria, or charnel house, at Worcester, 31 Jan. 1265–6*; bishop Henry now appropriating the said chapel to the sacristry of the church of Worcester, 2 Oct. 1385.

The documents are arranged according to churches, and the part of the volume which is strictly the Liber Pensionem ends on f. 29. After this, with a new gathering, comes a series of leading documents bearing upon the rights of the prior *sede vacante* (the composition between archbishop Boniface and the prior, 1268, &c.), followed by miscellaneous documents relating to the property, rights, privileges, and exemptions of the convent. Among these are:

f. 31. Appropriation by bishop Walter [Maydenstone] of the church of Tibberton to the precentory, on the ground "quod officium precentorie in Ecclesia nostra Cathedrali supra dicta propter sui exilitatem onera dicto officio incumbencia tam in librorum novorum scriptura quam antiquorum raparacione† et emendacione Clericorumque dicto officio deserviencium exhibicione (Equm quoque ac famulum propter negocia dicte Ecclesie expedienda adinvenire tenetur ex consuetudine hactenus approbata) nec non in multis aliis rebus ipsi officio necessariis consistencia sustinere non valebat quovis modo." *Fladbury:* 19 March 1314–5.

f. 34. Escheator's inquisition as to the tenure of the priory's temporalities. Sept. 1 Edw. I. [1273]. The witnesses declare that all its possessions are held in pure and perpetual alms.

f. 46. Grant by Henry III.‡ of a market to be held by the prior and convent at Shipston on Stour weekly on Saturdays and a yearly fair (*feria*) on the feast of St. Barnabas, its vigil, and morrow. *Woodstock:* 28 June, an. 52 [1268].

f. 47*b*. Indulgence of Clement [VI.] to the prior and monks to eat fleshmeat from Septuagesima to Quinquagesima, but not in the refectory, and for the rest of the year in the refectory. *Villanova:* 15 May, an. 10 [1351].

f. 50. Composition between Bishop William [of Blois] and the convent concerning the election of the prior [1224].

f. 51. Bull of Clement [VI.] authorising the prior John of Evesham to make use of "mitra, baculo, tunica, et dalmatica pastoralibus"; and to give the solemn blessing, except a legate or bishop be present (*Avignon:* 8 Jan., an. 9 [1350–1]): followed by other confirmations of privileges by Boniface [IX.] (*Rome:* 11 Dec., an. 8 [1396]), Nicolas [IV.] (*Rome:* 5 Jan., an. 2 [1288–9]; and *Rieti*, 1 Aug., an. 2 [1289]) and Boniface [IX.] (*Rome*, 13 Dec., an. 10 [1398]). The earlier rescript of Nicolas IV. contains a license to the prior and chapter to preach, considering "quod plures ex vobis sunt in divina pagina, in qua

* Printed by Thomas, append. 43, p. 26.
† *Sic.*
‡ Printed by Nash, ii. 436.

studium infra claustrum ecclesie vestre continue sicut asseritur vigere dinoscitur, plenius eruditi"; the second one empowers them to wear hats (*pilleis vel almiciis non curiosis*) during divine service in cold weather.

f. 52*b*. Letter under privy seal of Henry [IV.] forbidding the bailiffs of Worcester to have their maces carried before them within the church, cemetery, priory, and sanctuary. (Bubwith: P.S.) *Westminster:* 6 December an. 2. [1400].

f. 54*b*. Endowment of a secular chaplain to serve the altar of the blessed Mary "at rededore" in the cathedral church (or, as it is in the rubric, "ad rubrum hostium in Navi ecclesie"), 1315.

f. 55. Settlement of a complaint of the sacrist with reference to the expense he incurred "in exhibicione pecunie pitancie piscis et vini pro O Oriens," 1339.

f. 58. King's writ concerning a dispute between the bailiffs of the city and the church of Worcester as to the coroner's jurisdiction, *Westminster:* 19 December 22 Edw. III. [1348] and other documents of the legal proceedings down to Whitsuntide 23 Edw. III. [1349].

Inserted are a few documents in hands of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, f. 49*b*, 62*b*–67*b* (*end of book*).

f. 62. Commission to Arthur, prince of Wales, and Thomas, prior, to execute the statutes relating to the keeping of the peace, the use of liveries, &c. [*undated*] with the oath of a justice of the peace [in the same hand].

f. 63*b*. Confirmation by Thomas [Cranmer] abp. of Canterbury of the possessions of the prior and chapter of Worcester. *Gloucester:* 30 August 1534. [The date is given by error as "Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo tricesimo *quarto decimo*. Et nostre consecrationis anno secundo."]

f. 64. Note of a customary payment: "Memorandum quod Prior Ecclesie Cathedralis Wigorn in prima creacione sua percipiet de singulis Maneriis et dominiis suis speciale subsidium anglic' *Saddell silver* viz. de dominio de," &c.*

On the last flyleaf is an account "Staurorum diversorum Maneriorum ab Antiquo Assignatorum Officio Coquinarii Ecclesie Cathedralis beate Marie Wygorn'." The sum is 159 swine, 318 hens, 3600 eggs, 280 geese.

The volume contains two flyleaves cut out of a manuscript of Statius of the eleventh century. It is written in double columns, and the left-hand column in the first leaf and the right-hand one in the second have been mutilated to fit the cover. The passages are from the Thebais x. 877–900 (i. col. 1), 902–924 (col. 2); x. 778–800 (ii. col. 1), xi. 53–75 (col. 2). This singular derangement of the order is apparently to be accounted for by the hypothesis of some leaves in the archetype, containing lib. x. 801–876, 925–939, xi. 1–52, having been misplaced. In a manuscript in the Cathedral Library, Q° 8, Dr. H. Schenkl found similar flyleaves which were manifestly taken from the same MS. of Statius and begin with lib ii. 70. Dr. Schenkl however erroneously assigned the writing to the ninth century.†

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* Cf. 1st Ledger, f. 13*b*.

† *Wiener Studien*, viii. (1888), 166–168. I am indebted for this reference to the kindness of Mr. W. M. Lindsay, M.A., Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

IV. Register I.

The volume designated by Thomas and Nash Register I. and by Dugdale "registrum quoddam penes decanum et capitulum ecclesiæ cath. Wigorniæ," is a small folio in gatherings of twelve leaves written as far as f. lxiii in a hand of the middle of the 13th century. The uniformity of the handwriting is interrupted by insertions on ff. lviii, lix, lx. The book opens with the 'Nomina fundatorum Wigornensis ecclesie" (*Inc.* "Tempore Æthelredi"), followed by the charters of Edgar (*Inc.* "Altitonantis dei largiflua clementia"), of William I. to Wulstan bishop and Ur[so] de Abetot sheriff (confirming their customs and rights "Alfstano *decano* et monachis de Wigrecestra"), of bishop Wulstan concerning Alveston and concerning Tapenhal', of William I., Henry I. and his successors down to Henry III., papal bulls, charters of bishops and of private persons. F. lxi has a new heading, "Incipiunt transcripta cartarum"; but the documents are of the same character as the foregoing.

The documents are of great local interest and contain notices of value for the topographical history of the city of Worcester: *e.g.* "Hucsterestrete" is mentioned on ff. lv, lv*b*, "vicus cirothecariorum" on f. lvii.

On f. lxiii is a charter of Henry III.: "H. Dei gratia rex Anglie dominus Hibern[ie] dux Normañ Aquitañ et comes And[egavensis] omnibus baillivis et fidelibus suis ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem. Sciatis quod suscepimus in protectionem et defensionem nostram specialem priorem et monachos ecclesie Sancte Marie Wigorñ in qua corpus Regis patris nostri ecclesiastice traditum est sepulture," &c., 1241.

This charter is followed by entries of documents in a handwriting of the end of the thirteenth century, and the book becomes more and more irregular in respect of writing, ranging from that of the time of Henry III. to that of Edward I. Then from f. lxxi to f. lxxxviii the writing is of the 14th and 15th centuries. The volume deserves a full calendar: between 30 and 40 of the documents are printed at length by Thomas. Among the contents are:—

f. lxvi*b*. The composition between archbishop Boniface and the monks (1268) on procedure during a vacancy of the see.

f. lxvii*b*. Cardinal Otho's constitutions concerning regulars:

"In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus sancti. Amen. Cum grande sit opus et arduum civitatem Dei, que est sancta religio, novis et innovatis propugnaculis premunire contra versuti hostis insidias, qui eam novis et antiquis iugiter nititur machinis debellare: nos Otho miseracione divina sancti Nicholai in carcere Tulliano diaconus cardinalis, apostolice sedis legatus, ex iniuncto nobis legationis offitio adiuvandum pro viribus tam favorabile opus obnoxios reputantes, quedam tum ex sancti patris beati Benedicti Regula, tum ex sacris conciliis et canonicis sanctionibus, tum ex statutis etiam abbatum ordinis eiusdem beati Benedicti colligi fecimus et notari; que si servati fuerint, sacre religioni erunt in presidium et tutelam.

"Inprimis igitur duximus statuendum quod nullus ante vicesimum annum completum ad professionem et nonumdecimum ad probationem in monasterio decetero admittatur. Item qui ad probationem admissus erit professionem incontinenter* faciat anno probationis elapso vel exeat monasterium. Abbas alioquin vel prior qui aliquem sine profess[ione] sustinuerit ultra annum per presidentes capitulis graviter puniatur, et ille novitius nichilominus profiteri cogatur et habeatur pro professo. Item quod ab aliquo qui velit monasterium ingredi nichil exigatur omnino, sed pure propter Dominum et sine aliqua

* MS. *incontinenti.*

pactione qui admittendi fuerint admittantur. Recipi tamen poterit sine culpa si quid sine pactione et taxatione aliqua fuerit gratis oblatum. Item quod monachus aliquis decetero proprium aliquod non habeat, et si habet sine dilatione suo abbati assignet. Item quod aliquis monachus decetero ad firmam aliquod manerium vel possessionem aliam etiam a prelato suo recipere non presumat. Alioquin ut proprietarius haberi debeat ac puniri. Item quod in maneriis monachi non morentur, nec etiam in ecclesiis nisi plures fuerint, saltem duo. Item quod discreti ac fide digni ad officia deputentur, qui ter saltem in anno prelato suo presentibus aliquot de senioribus reddant de suis administrationibus et officiis rationem. Et tunc quicquid eis superfuerit, sive in pecunia sive in aliis quibuslibet quibuscunque rebus consistat, sine difficultate qualibet omni fraude amota suis prelatis restituant et assignent penam proprietariorum contra facientibus incursuris. Abbas quoque vel prior non habens abbatem saltem in anno semel coram conventu vel aliquot de senioribus ad hoc a conventu deputatis reddat de statu monasterii et administratione sua plenariam rationem. Item statuimus quod prelati bis saltem in anno publice in conventu in omnes proprietarios excommunicationis sententiam ferant, alias nichilominus nisi non resipiscant punientes maxime per ignominiam sepulture. Item statuimus quod silentium sp[ecialiter] in locis debitis et horis statutis iuxta Regulam observetur, et quod signa studeant scire omnes. Ad hec, cum esus carnium sit monachis iugiter ordinatis per Regulam beati Benedicti et per statutum nostrum nec non et abbatum Anglie presidentium eorum generali capitulo interdictus, ut monachis qui consueverunt vesci carnibus per abusum tollatur materia et occasio murmurandi, precipimus abbatibus et prioribus ut loco illius cibi eis vetiti studeant et procurent monachis iuxta facultatem domus competenter alium ministrare. Item quod monachi tam ad dorsum quam ad lectum secundum Regulam et facultatem domus habeant sufficientia et congrua indumenta nec camiseis lineis vel birretis utantur. Item quod simul dormiant monachi, lectos habeant iuxta regulam, nec in eorum dormitatione desit lumen. Hospitalitem vero tam a prelatis quam a subditis secundum regule sanctionem et facultatem loci cum caritate et hilaritate observari statuimus et mandamus semper, et ad hoc benignus et mansuetus monachus iuxta Regulam deputetur. Idem cum infirmis fratribus statuimus observandum. Item quod omnes horis intusint divinis et maxime collationi et completorio, nisi ex honesta causa aliquis circa hospites occupatus de speciali licentia seu prelati necesse habuerit remanere. Numerum vero equorum et familie prelati studeant in quantum poterunt moderare. Item statuimus quod abbates et priores continue iuxta Regulam scribi faciant constitutiones et sanctiones summorum pontificum ad eos et eorum ordinem precipue pertinentes que in compilatione domini Gregorii noni pape sub infra scriptis titulis continentur, videlicet de regularibus et transeuntibus.

Ad religionem* { *Ex parte.* / *Statuimus.* / *Ne religiosi.*

De statu monastorem† { *Monachi.* / *Cum ad monasterium.* / *In singulis.* / *Ea que religionis honestate.*

De symonia - *Quoniam simoniaca labes.*

De sententia excommunicationis { *Monachi.* / *Universitatis.* / *Cum illorum absolutis.* / *De monialibus.*

De fideiussoribus. *Quod quibusdam.*

De solutionibus. *Si quorundam.*

* In marg.: "li° 3°."
† In marg.: "li° 3°."

"Ideo districte precipimus abbatibus et prioribus quod predictam regulam beati Benedicti et Decretales et constitutiones suprascriptas scire studeant et ea secundum speciem habeant. Curent etiam diligenter quod ea subditi non ignorent. Item statuimus et districte precipimus observari quod in conventu quolibet monachorum una lectio diebus singulis de predicta regula vel prescriptis sanctionibus et statutis hora competenti legatur et minus intelligentibus exponatur."

f. lxviii*b*. Writ of Henry III. to the sheriff of Worcester. Having ascertained by inquisition made by Mr. Symon de Walton that the prior of Worcester and his predecessors from time whereof no record is preserved "habuerunt salsam suam in villa nostra de Wych' et sal suum bullire consueverunt et uti quodam bukecto communi ad hauriendum salsam suam, et pro illo bukecto aliquando dare plus, aliquando minus, et quod solebant locare homines de eadem villa ad hauriendum predictam salsam et ad bulliendum sal suum et ad reparandum plumbos suos, et per quatuor plumbos bullire consueverunt, neque ad tempus quo baillivi nostri de Wych' ceperunt manerium de nobis ad firmam; et quod idem prior per predictos baillivos super premissis est impeditus: tibi precipimus quod eundem priorem de premissis seysinam habere facias, qualem inde habuit ante quam predicti baillivi eandem villam de nobis ceperunt ad firmam. T[este] me ipso apud *Messenden*." N. d.

f. lxviii*b*. Inspeximus by Henry III. of Charter of Henry II.: "Precipio quod prior et monachi sancte Marie de Wyreter [*sic*] habeant iuste omnes fugitivos suos cum tota pecunia sua ubicunque inventi fuerint. Et nullus eis super hoc eos iniuste detineat super decem libras forisfacture. T[este] Canc[ellario] apud *Wyreter*."

Confirmed: *Westminster:* 8 March 50 Hen. III. [1265–6].

f. lxx. Reply of Guido bishop of S. Sabina and legate of the apostolic see [afterwards pope Clement IV.] to the English nobles in rebellion against Henry III. *Amiens:* 26 July [1264].

"Gwydo miseracione divina Sabinensis episcopus apostolice sedis legatus viris nobilibus comitibus baronibus militibus et comitatibus* regni Anglie salutem in Domino. Si gens Anglorum ad antiquam veritatem hystorie sedula meditatione recurreret, si sedis apostolice beneficia circa se pluries inculcata cognosceret, si eiusdem sedis dominium quo regi dominatur et regno reverenter attenderet, in insolentiam erigi non deberet sed pocius ad obsequium inclinari. Est enim gens peculiaris populus et thesaurus gratissimus alme sedis, quem beatus Gregorius per Anglorum apostolum Augustinum a dupplici servitute liberans Deo noscitur† adquisisse, quemque nostris temporibus, ut vetera taceamus, ab inclite memorie domino Ludowico patre domini regis Francorum qui modo regnat ex parte maxima subactum, per . . . legati sui prudenciam pariter et potenciam de manu liberavit eiusdem, et si gentis eiusdem saluti consuleret et honori, Francorum regnum exasperare non timuit tam carum, tam nobile, tam sublime, regnum a Domino benedictum. Miratur igitur terra et celi desuper obstupescunt ad hanc ingratitudinem Anglie nunc delapsam, si in matris et domini manifestam iniuriam legatum suum, non quemlibet sed corporis sui partem, si non merito saltim officio reverendum, irreverenter abiciat et eiusdem legati nuncios simplices et pacificos non admittat. Mira siquidem tarditas[?] et detestanda crudelitas negari matri quod Tartaris, paganis, scismaticis, et

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* *Sic:* not "communitatibus."

† MS. *nossitur*.

penitus infidelibus non negatur, quorum legati ab omnibus regnis et curiis et curialiter admittuntur et pacienter auditi ab omni gravamine liberi remittuntur. Sane vos viri nobiles et capita populorum nobis scribitis quod communicato consilio sic Lond̃ ordinastis et asseritis privilegium vestrum esse quod ad vos legatus non veniat non petitus. Sed absit ut Romana ecclesia lege propria se artaverit, ne possit per alios visitare quorum visitacionem presencialiter nequit implere ; nec potuit aliquis summus pontifex legem ponere successori, quia non habet imperium par in parem, nec papa unius predecessoris heres est sed successor. Cessant tamen hec omnia ipso facto, cum rex vester institerit et inportune pecierit, sed nichilominus oportune, ad regnum suum multa dilaceracione concisum destinari legatum : et nunc contempnitis destinatum, querentem vos et non vestra, salutem vestram et aliorum omnium sicientem ad pacem salubriter reformandam, et iusticiam misericordia temperandam piis visceribus hanelantem. Porro quem sic despicitis inverecunde rogatis ut exercitum contra vos evocatum faciat revocari et inducat dominum regem Francorum* ad pecuniam non solvendam vestris, ut dicitis, emulis que debetur pro quingentis militibus regi vestro. Nos vero quo ad primum articulum preces vestras prevenimus, et in ipso convocacionis exordio quibus modis potuimus laboravimus ut nulla fieret militum congregacio : sed quod volumus non valuimus optinere ; et tamen cessari tunc poterat sine dampno, cum nunc in mari et terra multis stipendiis persolutis optinendi creverit difficultas. Ad secundum articulum non processimus, quia rem integram non invenimus pecunia iam soluta. Ceterum ad id quod finaliter petitis ut vestris nunciis apud Bonoñ. occurramus, sic vobis duximus respondendum : quod videlicet apropinquare proponimus et ad vestros nuncios nostros mittere quorum communicato et intellecto tractatu, si dignum nobis videbitur nostram presenciam exhibebimus, et quicquid boni poterimus faciemus honore sedis apostolicæ in omnibus conservato. Demum monemus vestram nobilitatem obnoxius [*sic*] quatinus discreto consilio communicato a sinistra ad dextram redeatis. Et si vobis non sufficiunt exaggerata discrimina nova veteribus non addatis. Nec enim credimus vos ambigere, quod omittere non potuimus, quin apostolice sedis iusticiam prout decuerit et licuerit prosequamus. Dat. Ambiañ vij. Kal. August' pontificatus domini Urbani quarti anno quarto."

f. lxx*b*. Bull of Innocent [III.] confirming the exemption of the Cistercians from paying tithes. *Inc.* : "Audivimus et audientes mirati sumus." N. d. [Reg. Innoc. III., Suppl. xxxiv. (Migne, Patr. Lat. ccxvii. 62) ; dat. *Lateran*, 26 May 1200.]

f. lxxvi*b*. Pleas in the king's bench, Westminster, 28 Edw. III.

f. lxxxvi*b*. "This endent'† made bytwene the Prior and the Couent of the monastry and the Cathedrall Churche of oure lady of Worcest^r on the oon partye and the Balyffes‡ and Comynalte of the Cyte of Worcest' on the othyr partye beryth witnesse that the sayde Priour and Couent haũ geuyñe lysance and grauntede to the sayde Balyffes and Comynalte that the sayde Balyffes and ther successoures Balyffes of the sayde cyte and yche of the sayde Balyffes for ther worshype and hono^r schall haue ther maces borñ a fore them by ther sergeauntes when they cõme in to the sayde monaster and Cathedrall Church and wythin the

* *Franc'*.
† Cf. Nash ii. 309. Another copy of this document is in the 1st Ledger, f. xxi.
‡ MS. *Balyffe*, in the singular throughout. I correct from the 1st Ledger.

same monastry Church and Cymitory of the sayde Priour and Couent called Seyntmary* Churchay† and with inne seynt Johannis and all soo ther' sergeaunts may bere there maces undur' ther' gurdylles yeff they wyll with inne the same monastry Churche and Cymitory and seynt Johannis afore wrytt in the absense of ther masteres and as for as moche as the sayde monastry Curche and Cymitory and seynt Johannis byn closely within the fraunches Jurisdiction and liberte of the sayde priour' and Couente and owte of the fraunches Jurisdiction and liberte of the sayde Cyte and that the bailyffes of the sayde Cyte nor noñ other officers nor ministres of the sayde Cyte have no maner power nor auctorite nor never hadde to make any Areste or do any other execucion be longyng to any of the officeres wythin the sayde monastry Churche and Cymitory and seynt Johannis. The sayde Balyffes and Comynalte of the sayd Cyte graunten and permittoñ‡ to the sayd Priour and Covent thatt§ yeff her' after any sergeant of the sayde Cyte a rest or do any other execucion by colour' of hys office wythin the sayd monastry Churche Cymitory or seynt Johannis that then the Balyffes of the sayde Cyte att that tyme beyng' schall take awey the mase from the same sergeante and that the same sergeant' schall never be sergeant nor bere mace wythin the sayde Cyte afterwarde. And yeff ther be any arest or any execucion don' wythiñ the sayde monastry Churche Cymitory or seynt Johannis by any of the balyffs of the sayde Cytè for the tyme beyng by colour of hys office or by any sergeant or other by hys commaundement and that dewly proved before the supprior' and|| celerer' of the sayde monastery for the tyme beyng' and iiij of ther brethryn Monkes of ¶ the sayde monastery by them therto chosyn and afore ij Aldermeñ of the sayde Cyte for the tyme being' and iiij of the worthyest of the syttsens of the sayde Cyte by the sayde aldyrmen all soo ther too schosen yeff the sayde aldyrmen and iiij sittesens be so schosyn and wyll ther too attende wyth that they have ther' of warnyng by the space of vii dayes and yeff nott then the dew preffe** ther off made and hadde be foure the suppriour and Cellerer' and there iiij brethern that then noon of the sayde bailyffs of the sayde Cyte for the tyme beyng' schall never have therafter any mase boron' a fore them within the sayde monastery Churche Cymitory or seynt Johannis. In wytnes ther off &c. Mr. John Carpynter then beyng' Byschoppe of the Dyoc' of Worcest[r] Syr thomas lytylton Sergeant of the lawe Syr Walter Sculle Thomas Frogmorton†† Thomas Everdon and Humfrey Salwey‡‡ viz. that non of ther sargeants to have ther maces boron under ther' gurdellis nor opynly with inne the sayde monastry Churche Cymitory or seynt Johannis."

On the back of the last folio (which should be "89") is written§§: "Anno ab incarnacione domini m° cc° l tercio facta est hec remissio particularis sive relaxatio servicii quod non tanget regulam de consensu conventus a domino Th. priore ut divinum servicium protraxius pungtacius

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* So 1st Ledger: MS. *Seyntuary.*

† *Churchehay* in 1st Ledger.

‡ *Sic.*

§ So 1st Ledger: MS. *and.*

|| "And" omitted in the MS., but so in 1st Ledger, f. xxi.

¶ "Of" written twice, in error.

** The 1st Ledger has *prove.*

†† *Throgmorton*, 1st ledger.

‡‡ In 1st ledger the document proceeds: "With mony other yeven at Worcettur the xx day of January the yere [of the] Reigne of Kyng Edward the fourth after the conquest the Fyrste."

§§ Of this there is a copy in the book marked + (No. xii, below) f. 57.

honestius et sine tedio fiat. *Pro hac autem relaxacione dicet conventus cotidie particulatim† totum psalterium per porciones cuilibet assignatas."

Facing this leaf is a leaf, mutilated on the left-hand side, and pasted on to the end-cover, from a manuscript of the Vulgate written in a noble English hand of the 8th century. The one side visible contains the passage Marc. x. 26–33.

IVa. The (lost) Second Register.

Of the Second Register mentioned by Nash there is now no trace in the muniment room. It may be assumed to have bridged over the interval between the First Register and the Liber Albus.

V. Liber Albus.

The Great Register or Liber Albus is a massive volume of 497 vellum leaves written at various times in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. A note attached to the flyleaf by Mr. Henry Clifton, formerly chapter clerk, attributes the name presumably to "the circumstance of its being originally bound in boards of *white sycamore* which were so full of grubs and so worm-eaten as to require removal from the book, which was bound in vellum under my superintendence in the year 1824." It is probably best to retain the name since, owing to the loss of the Second Register, it is impossible to say whether it continues an old, or begins a new, series. Chancellor Price, in his "Notitia Diœc. Wigorn."* seems to distinguish this from its predecessors, as the register of the *priory* from the older registers of the *church;* a distinction which will not bear examination. It is, however, a real mark of division that, whereas the First Register accumulates its documents without exact regard to the order of time or the official years, this Liber Albus is divided strictly under the administrations of successive Priors. The heading of p. 1 is "Registrum incipiens in prima creacione Fratris Johannis de Wyk Prioris Wigorn'. Anno domini m° ccc° Primo." The register is continued regularly down to the time of Prior Wulstan Braunsford. Of the two Simons who are said to have occupied the priorate from 1339 to 1340 nothing is registered; Braunsford being followed immediately by Prior John of Evesham, 1340 (f. clxiii). The register of Prior John Malvern stops short abruptly in 1408 (f. ccccxxxv). Then follow (f. ccccxxxvi) first the record of the appeal of Cardinals Angelo of Ostia, Anthony of Palestrina, *bishops*, Conrad of St. Chrysogonus, Jordan of St. Martin in montibus, *priests*, and 3 others *deacons*, against certain acts of pope Gregory XII., heard at Pisa, 7 May 1408; secondly, a mandate of Thomas [Arundel] abp. of Canterbury for convocation, addressed to Richard [Clifford] bp. of London, *Lambeth* 25 June 1408, printed from the abp.'s register in Wilkins' Concilia Magnæ Britanniæ, iii. 306–308; and thirdly, the instructions given to Robert Heremyte, sent by the king to the Duke of Albany regent of Scotland on church business. This last ends imperfectly at the end of the gathering. A new gathering opens in the

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* MS. inter archiv. episcop., p. ii. See below, p. 205.

† "Particulatim": MS. *-lat'im.*

middle of a document of 25 June 11 Henry VI. [1433], at which date John Fordham was prior, having occupied this position at least as early as 2 March 1418–19.* The formal register is now resumed and continues into the priorate of John Hartlebury. Nash says it ends in 1456; Clifton, in 1446: in fact the regular register closes with entries of Dec. 1455; after which (ff. cccclxxxxi–cccclxxxxv) in a different style of writing are entered documents of 1457 and 1456–7; and then several detached and partly fragmentary documents, one of which bears date January 1493–4. To the beginning of the volume are prefixed sundry documents, the last of which is an appointment to the vicarage of Overbury, dated February 1545–6. The register in any case may be said to end *with* Hartlebury, though the exact year be undefined owing to the irregular and unbusinesslike habits which had now for some time characterised the management of the convent. The next volume (the First Ledger) begins, though defectively, with the priorate of Thomas Musard and the year 36 Henry VI.

The Liber Albus contains charters of donation and confirmation, releases and bonds, relative to churches and lands in the gift of the chapter, letters of appointment for proctors in convocation, numerous deeds of manumission of bondsmen, and some miscellaneous documents.

Among these are—

f. clxiii*b*. Charter of King Edward [III.] confirming the privileges of the city of Worcester. *Oseney:* 12 July an. 4 [1330].

f. clxxxxix. "Acta et processus provisorum domini Clementis pape sexti coram fratre Iohanne de Evesham priore ecclesie cathedralis Wigorn' per venerabilem in Christo patrem dominum Wolstanum Dei gracia Wigorn' episcopum auctoritate apostolica executorem unicum graciarum infra scriptarum subexecutore earundem constituto habit[a]" 8 Nov. 1342.

f. ccclxxxviii*b*. "Ista sunt que concessit dominus papa priori Wygorñ quantum ad usum mitre et baculi pastoralis.

"Primo quod in presencia episcopi existentis in ipsa ecclesia cathedrali posset uti mitra aurifrittata sine lapidibus et gemmis preciosis, burdono non facto ad modum baculi pastoralis, anulo, et cyrotecis tantum, nisi contingat quod propter indisposicionem episcopi seu aliquam aliam causam prior celebret missam: quo casu ob reverenciam divinorum concessum est sibi in presencia episcopi uti mitra preciosa, baculo pastorali, et aliis insigniis pontificalibus; dum tamen inter preciositatem mitre et baculi episcopi et preciositatem mitre et baculi prioris apparens et notabilis existat differencia.

"In presencia vero episcopi extra ecclesiam cathedralem concessum est sibi uti mitra preciosa, baculo pastorali, et aliis insigniis pontificalibus, cum huiusmodi notabili differencia.

"In absencia vero episcopi, tam in ipsa ecclesia cathedrali quam extra, concessum est sibi uti mitra preciosa, baculo pastorali solenni† tunica, dalmatica, et aliis insigniis pontificalibus, sine aliqua restriccione vel limitacione differencie." This document is inserted in the register of Prior Malvern, a. 1397. In 1351 Pope Clement VI. had conferred the privilege on prior John of Evesham, but only in the absence of the legate of the holy see or of a bishop: *Lib. Pensionum* f. 51.‡ Another grant to the same effect was made by Urban V. in

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* See Reg. sede vac. f. ccxxix.

† MS. *solennennis*.

‡ Printed by Thomas, p. 125, and (in an inspeximus) by Wilkins, Conc. iii. 201.

1365.* The arrangement spoken of above must be later than abp. Courtenay's inspeximus of Jan. 10, 1386–7. It differs also in several particulars from the agreement arrived at between bp. Wakefield and prior John Grene, 13 Nov. 1391.†

f. ccccxxxvi. "In dei nomine Amen. Anno a nativitate eiusdem 1408 Indictione prima die dominica vij° die mensis Maii hora terciarum vel quasi, presbiteris‡ sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Gregorii divina providencia pape xii Anno secundo, in Civitate Pysarum in Archiepiscopali palacio videlicet in camera, infrascriptus Reverendissimus Antonius Episcopus Penestrñ presencialiter residebat, presentibus ibidem magnifico et egregio viro Iohanne quondam domini Francisci de Urcinis laurencio Aiubalbi de Stephanest' valeriano de Fregiã panibus de urbe regionis transtiberī, domino Bartholomeo Iohannis de Monte gwacie, domino Angelo de Fuscis canonico lateranensis, et lorvo gunsalvi canonico lametensi ac aliis quam pluribus§ testibus ad hoc specialiter convogatis et rogatis: Cum hoc scilicet‖ quod pridie videlicet die Veneris iiii.ta mensis predicti Maii hova terciarum vel quasi prefatus sanctissimus dominus noster dominus Gregorius papa xii infrascriptus et aliis reverendissimis dominis Cardinalibus sancte Romane ecclesie tunc residentibus in Civitate Lucana circa mandata fecerit de quibus infra fit mencio. Inprimis quod infrascripti domini Cardinales quamvis predicta mandata crederent, reputarent, ymmo tenerent fuisse et esse nulla et omnino invalida de iure et ab eis in quantum ferentur fuisse et esse nulla et omnino invalida in iure," they make appeal.

f. ccccxliiii. *in marg.* "Quomodo Basileñ et alii plures naciones honorabiliter venerunt obviam episcopo Wyg' et priori Norwycenci ambassatoribus domini regis Anglie ad consilium Basiliense concurrentibus." The text, giving the order of the reception, is printed by Thomas, doc. 123 pp. 140 f.

VI.—The Ledgers.

The Liber Albus is immediately followed by three volumes called by Nash the Ledgers (or as he writes the word "Legers"). Although these are precisely of the same character as their predecessor, and are in fact designated "Registra" in sundry sixteenth century notes on the flyleaves, it is desirable to retain the distinction of name not only for the sake of avoiding confusion but also because they are denoted by the numbers 1, 2, and 3 on the (modern) bindings.

(1.) The First Ledger has lost a leaf at the beginning, and the first date in it that can be fixed is 1 July 36 Hen. VI. [1458]. It begins therefore with the priorate of Thomas Musard: it is carried through those of Robert Multon and William Wenlock, and ends in 1498.

Among its contents are—

f. 13*b*. Note of receipts by the prior "in prima creacione sua de singulis maneriis se[u] dominiis suis" of the special subsidy known as "Sadell selver."

f. 14. Rental of the prior, 1463.

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* Green, i. 220 (where misdated 1363): cf. vol. ii. append. p. xxxi, Dugdale (ed. 1817) i. 619*a*, Wilkins, iii. 202.

† See Reg. Wakefield, ff. 93*b*, 94.

‡ *Presbiteris*, a mistake for *pontificatus*.

§ MS. *quam de pluribus*.

‖ *Scilicet*: MS. s^{c}.

f. 17. Order by Henry VI. (9 April, an. 38 [1460]) for the reception of the oaths of John Hampton and Henry Lombe, whom the king has pardoned for their rebellion before 20 November last past. With the oath of allegiance in *English*.

f. 22. Letter of Edward IV. to the prior asking for a benevolence to aid him against the invasion threatened by "oure grete Adversary Henre namyng hymselfe Kyng of Englond by the malicious counseille and excitation of Margarete his wyfe namyng her selfe Quene of Englond." *Stamford:* 13 March an. 2 [1461–2].

f. 35*b*. Declaration by bishop John [Carpenter] of the boundaries of the sanctuary or cemetery ("cimitorium") of the church of Worcester (21 May 1460).

f. 55. Revocation of licence to William Walewen, S.T.B., "ad scolatizandum" at Oxford or Cambridge, 7 February 1468–9. (Walewen was shortly afterwards admitted to the monastery of Eynsham, f. 55*b* and f. 57*b*.)

f. 74*b*. Appointment of the prior's servant, John Salwey, gentleman, to the office of "gentylmankerver" at his table, 1472. The document is headed "de Officio Sironomontis ad Mensam."

f. 107. Title of prior Wenlock's register, with the arms of the church (argent, ten torteaux gules) and of himself (azure, a lock or), and the dates 1492–1498.

(2.) The Second Ledger begins in 1499 and contains the registers of priors Thomas Mildenham, John Weddybury or Weddesbury, and William More.

On a blank leaf (f. 107) is scrawled:

"M^{d} that owyr* Mast^{r} y^{e} p'or shall ress'† off eu'y vicar & pson ꝑsent by owir‡ place at ys dez̄th suche duyteis as yer folowit

Itm. A Hatt A Typet & Tache A Rydyng Gowne & A port[uos].§

A purs a gyrdyll a peyer of knyves a hors sadyll & brydill & hernes thereto.

A peyre of bots & sporys. A Kanger."

f. 182. "Ordo quidam observandus erga dominum regem Henricum octavum &c. Et in quali estimacione habebimus Episcopum Romanum:" a deed whereby prior More and the convent of Worcester unanimously declare their fidelity and obedience to king Henry VIII. and queen Ann his wife; acknowledging him as "caput ecclesie Anglicanæ" and denying that the bishop of Rome hath any greater jurisdiction in this realm of England than any other foreign bishop, &c. 17 August, anno 26 [1534].

f. 183. The oath in English follows:

"Ye shall swere to bere fayth trothe and obediens to the Kynges mageste," according to the act of succession.

f. 187. Archbishop Cranmer's "Iniuncciones et provisiones" for the order and discipline of the convent: on the reading of the Bible, and its exposition in English; the use of the common seal; the need of making an inventory of the moveable goods of the monastery; the

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* Corrected from *yowyr*.

† Partly erased.

‡ Corrected from *yowir*.

§ The end of this word, about six letters in length, is erased. I supply the termination from another copy in the book marked + (*infra* No. xii) f. 50.

keeping and rendering of accounts; the provision of properly cooked food; and the general conduct of the officers of the house. *Knoll:* 22 February 1534–5 anno consecr. 2°.

(3.) The THIRD LEDGER is that of "Henry Holbeche S.T.P., monk of Crowland and prior of the black monks studying at Cambridge, who was elected prior of the cathedral church of Worcester by the convent at the same place, 13 March 1535 and by . . . Henry VIII. . . . under Christ supreme head of the English church on earth confirmed, 22 March 1535." It ends on 10 January 31 Hen. VIII. [1539–40, eight days before the surrender of the house].

VII.—THE REGISTERS OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER.

In succession to these ledgers are the many volumes variously known as the LEDGERS or REGISTERS OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER, Holbeche having retained his office as first dean of the cathedral church. This series is numbered continuously with the ledgers, and thus begins with vol. iv.* It extends to the present day and to fifty-five volumes.

Volumes xv. and xvi. mentioned by Nash seem to have disappeared. The former ran from 12–17 Charles I. [1636–1641]. The latter began in 1641 but was presumably discontinued in the troubles of the civil war. Possibly all that was written was eight leaves ending 23 June 1641 and now prefixed to vol. xvii, which begins in September 1660.

Among other volumes are:—

VIII. A book in parchment covers containing transcripts of charters relating to the possessions of the church in handwritings of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. At least one leaf is lost at the beginning.

IX. A chartulary and rental arranged under manors and written in hands of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

X. A small chartulary written in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. At the end is written, "Browne Willis."

XI. A volume containing a journal and accounts of William More, prior, chiefly from 1513 to 1534. This has been copied by or under the direction of Mr. Hooper, who has placed his transcript at the disposal of the Early English Text Society for publication under the editorship of Mr. Littlehales.

XII. "The book marked + " (thus cited by Green) or "Liber chartac. p. & cap." (as referred to by Chancellor Price in his MS. "Notitia Dioec. Wigorn.") is a volume in rough calf with a cross drawn on the back in ink. The volume contains miscellaneous collections, notes, inventories, and memoranda, written principally between 1532 and 1540.

The following articles may be noted:—

f. 1. "The provisions for stuff of howsold with impliments [on] our Manors of Crowle, Batnall, and Grymley, by the reverend father William More prior of Worcester" 1 May, 1532.

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* Nash open this series with a THIRD REGISTER, extending from 13 March 1535 to 10 January 1539; but a glance at the foregoing notice of the Third Ledger given by him will show that he is by accident describing the same volume again under a different name.

f. 3. Accounts of purchases, including many of books, made by prior More, October 1518.

f. 7. Receipts of fixed corn-rents from the capitular estates, 1513.

f. 12*b*. Receipts in money of the officers of the house, 15 Hen. VIII.

f. 13. Rental of the priory, 5 Hen. VIII., 1513.

f. 27. "The indulgence to the Pater noster et Ave Maria."

f. 28. "The scripture upon the iiij bells in the leddon stepull":

The first bell.	Campanas dia serues has virgo maria.
The ij^{d} bell.	Cristus vincit. Xpc regnat. Xpc impat. Xpc nos ab oĩmi malo.
The iij^{d} bell.	Johes Lyndesey.
The iiijth bell p. [Tho]mã myldenhm̃ priorẽ.	Hoc ope impleto. Xpc virtute faueto. Aue maria gracia plena dñs tecum the clocke bell.

f. 28. The prior's allowances, and the receipts and expenses of the several officers of the house.

f. 52*b*. "Soluciones ad le Spycery money," and receipts for "le "Saddulselver."

f. 53*b*. Rental of the prior, 1518.

f. 56. Salaries of the servants, and their livery.

f. 57*b*. "Nomina qui habent hose money ad natalem Domini."

f. 62*b*. "Composicion betweene the prior and coventt of Worcetter "and the baylyes and cytesons of the same," 1 Aug. 1516, 8 Hen. VIII.

f. 65. "Composicion for berynge of macis," 20 Jan. [1472], 1 Edw. IV.

f. 66. Perambulation between the liberties of the monastery and the city, 12 April, 12 Hen. VII.

f. 77*b*. Annals of the building of the fabrics of the church and monastery, 1372–1386, headed in a later hand "Ædificiorum chronologia."

f. 103. Ordinance respecting wills and customary dues at death.

f. 104. Chronological lists of the bishops and priors, drawn up before 1535 and continued in later hands down to the seventeenth century.

f. 114. "Lyvereye of bred" and "Lyvereye Ale."

f. 124*b*. Procurations charged upon the officers for Cardinal Wolsey's legatine visitation, 17 April, 1525.

f. 125*b*. "The Scholars Pension of Oxforde.

"In primis of the cellerar for ther bred ale fewell and other necessares payd of y^{e} rent of Blackwell to every one of them . . . vi ĩi.

"Item of the chamberar for ther comens and other necessary dewties . . . . xxx s.

"Item of the kesynner for ther mete by the hands of y^{e} abbot of Oseney out of y^{e} churche of Bybery for y^{e} pension . . . xxx s."

f. 129*b*. Rules for painting portraits of saints.

f. 130*b*. Expenses of the cellerar, 1529, and other accounts.

f. 133. "De missis celebratis quotidie in ecclesia cathedrali beate "Marie Wigorn."

f. 135*b*. Historical notices concerning the church and diocese of Worcester.

f. 138. Indentures between the monasteries of Malmesbury and Worcester transferring to the latter certain chambers at Gloucester College, Oxford, 1412 and 1440 :*

"Indentura terre nostre in glowcester college in oxonia.

"Hec indentura testatur quod Thomas permissione divina abbas monasterii de Malmmesbury et eiusdem loci conventus assignaverunt [et] concesserunt ex communi concensu Iohanni priori ecclesie cathedralis beate Marie Wigornie et eiusdem loci conventui quoddam solum sive fundum cum edificiis ac aysiamentis dicto fundo pertinentibus : quod fundum iacet in prioratu dictorum abbatis et conventus in Stockwelstrete in suburbio Oxoñ, continens in longitudine viginti et quatuor pedes et dimidium a camera Wynchelcombie versus boriam et in latitudine viginti et unum pedes ; et camera superior eiusdem fundi continet in longitudine quinquaginta et duos pedes versus cameram Wynchelcombie, cum camera parva inferiori inmediate situata inter edificium de Tewkesbury et Wynchelcombie, continente duodecim pedes in latitudine et viginti et duos pedes et dimidium in longitudine : pro mora et habitatione monachorum dicti prioris et conventus causa studii vel necessitatis illuc destinatorum sive imposterum destinandorum. Et eciam predicti abbas et conventus concesserunt quod predicti prior et conventus ibidem possunt quocienscunque eis placuerit de novo edificare ac premissa habere et tenere pro monachis suis qui illuc causa studii sive necessitatis vel more fuerint transmissi vel imposterum transmittendi absque impedimento vel contradiccione cuiuscumque dictorum abbatis sive conventus vel successorum suorum. Reservata prefatis abbati et conventui et suis successoribus proprietate soli predicti. Racione tamen istius concessionis aliquam terram extra edificia predicta predicti prior et conventus ocupare sive vendicare non debent nisi causa reparacionis edificii predicti. In cuius rei testimonium uni parti huius indenture, penes dictos priorem et conventum remanenti, sigillum commune dictorum abbatis et conventus est appensum. Et alteri parti eiusdem indenture penes dictos abbatem et conventum remanenti sigillum commune dictorum prioris et conventus in domo eorum capitulari est appensum. Dat' in domo capitulari ipsorum abbatis et conventus ibidem die Veneris proximo post festum exaltacionis sancte crucis. Anno regni regis Henrici quarti tercio decimo.

"Item indentura alia de eadem.

"Hec indentura facta inter religiosos viros Thomam permissione divina abbatem monasterii Malmmesbury et eiusdem loci conventum ordinis sancti Benedicti ex parte una, et Thomam eadem permissione priorem ecclesie cathedralis Wigorñ et eiusdem loci conventum prefati ordinis ex parte altera, Testatur quod prefati abbas et conventus tradiderunt, concesserunt, et assignaverunt dictis priori et conventui ecclesie cathedralis Wigorñ quandam cameram cum fundo eiusdem infra prioratum dictorum abbatis et conventus de Malmmesbury vocatum nunc Glowceter college in Stocwell strete infra precinctum universitatis Oxoñ, subtus cameram et mansionem superiorem scolarium† predicti monasterii de Wigorñ directe situatam, continentem infra

* How entirely the arrangements had changed and the whole Worcester tradition disappeared by the seventeenth century,—and this too in buildings which not long after became the home of a revived college bearing the name itself of Worcester,—may be seen from Anthony Wood's City of Oxford (ed. A. Clark), ii. 252–255, Oxford 1890.

† MS. *scolaciū*.

muros viginti pedes in longitudine et duodecim pedes in latitudine: Habendam et tenendam predictam cameram cum fundo predicto prefatis priori et conventui et eorum successoribus pro se et suis infra predictum prioratum Oxoñ causa studii et doctrine aut alia causa honesta pro tempore contingente ibidem morantibus et imposterum moraturis: Ita quod prefati prior et conventus et eorum successores valeant edificare super predictum fundum quociens sibi visum fuerit et per suos dictum fundum sive cameram occupare [et] ad usum proprium retinere absque impedimento seu perturbacione predictorum abbatis et conventus seu alterius cuiuscunque: proprietate tamen soli sive camere predicte dictis abbati et conventui in omnibus semper salva: quas quidem tradicionem, concessionem, et assignacionem prefati abbas et conventus sub forma predicta warantizabunt* et defendent contra quoscunque imperpetuum. In cuius rei testimonium partes predicte† hiis scriptis indentatis sigilla sua communia alternatim apposuerunt. Dat' quo ad abbatem et conventum de Malmmesbury in domo capitulari eorundem, vicesimo secundo die Augusti anno Domini Millesimo cccc^mo^ quadragesimo: Et quo ad priorem et conventum monasterii sive ecclesie cathedralis Wigorñ in domo capitulari eorundem, vicesimo sexto die mensis Augusti anno supradicto."

f. 148*b*. "The Copie of the Actes for Holydays."

f. 165*b*. List of sanctuaries authorised by 32 Hen. VIII., cap. 12.

f. 166*b*. Recipes for cooking and medicine, interspersed with various notices, some of events in public history.

f. 170*b*. "The surrender of the priory of Worceter," followed by an inventory of plate, printed by Green, whose text extends somewhat further than that now preserved in the manuscript, which has suffered much from ill-usage and of which at least one leaf has been lost within the last hundred years.

Besides these there are numerous books of acts, registers of admissions and installations, patent and seal-books, rentals, and other volumes. Among these may be mentioned:—

XIII. "Liber Visitacionis domini Johannis . . Wigorniensis episcopi . . . 1540."—The book thus entitled on the parchment wrapper contains in fact principally valors, but has also the depositions, 26 April, 1541, touching the opinions of one Matthew Price of Staunton in Worcestershire concerning the sacrament of the altar and the use of holy water; evidence (22 May an. 33) against Sir James Darkes, priest of the college of Stratford, for immorality, given before Dr. John Bagard, vicar general, "commissioner . . . "for thexecucion of a certeyne acte of parliamente concernynge the "syx articles;" evidence against Roger Waxmaker of Bristol, 7 May, 1541, who "dyd see god"; and others. Then follow certain visitation detecta relating to heresy (imperfect), John Dydson's answers to articles, with a note on books found in his possession—"Lutherus in postill' Bucher in epāla Pauli ad Romanos et Zyngulus unica‡ exposicio,"—and many other sets of depositions during the visitation of 1540.

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* MS. *warantizabant.*

† MS. *predicti.*

‡ The word is written *vnmca*; but the book referred to is no doubt Zwingli's "Christianæ Fidei brevis et clara Expositio."

XIV. A volume, marked on the vellum wrapper "Liber Canonum Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Wigorn.," containing sundry articles of visitation, 1578–1639; injunctions, acts, &c., of the dean and chapter, and caveats. Among the contents are :—

"Articles to be inquired of for the Cathedrall Church in the Visitacion of the Right Reverend Father in god John Lo. Bpp. of Worcester Anno domini 1636."

Requisition by Henry VIII. to Hugh [Latimer] bishop of Worcester for an account of the revenues of the churches in the diocese, 20 February, an. 28 [1536–7].

The Return, under Deaneries, follows; and a table of procurations.

f. 29. The "Liber Canonum Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Wigorn'," torn and damaged.

f. 47. Articles of visitation of the diocese and cathedral church by bp. Freake, 1589, in fragments.

f. 59. "Detecta in visitacione Ecclesie Cathedralis Wigorn." by bp. Whitgift, 1580.

f. 107. "A rate of the arms and military furn[iture] assessed upon "the Clergie within the Co[untie] and Dioces of Worc'," by bp. Henry Parry, 1615. The same list has been used for a return about fourteen years later, and some of the names and specifications changed. The arms are almost entirely corslets, muskets, and calivers, furnished.

XV. A volume containing the depositions in the matter of charges alleged against the late dean and the present prebendaries of the church for mismanagement of the capitular estates. 1587.

XVI. A treatise of the bishoprick and Church of Worcester, a thin volume in small folio, ending with the dissolution of the priory. A note on the fly-leaf asks, "Was this written by Dean Hickes (obit 1715)? or Browne Willis?" It is believed to be Habingdon's. The volume was deposited in the muniment room in 1822.

The collection of Documents, as distinguished from volumes, has suffered heavy losses since it was examined by the antiquaries of the seventeenth century. Charters described by Dugdale and Hickes are no longer to be found in the muniment room, and a comparison of Wanley's list with the documents still preserved leads us to form a most unfavourable judgment of the fidelity of the guardians of these muniments in the years succeeding the revolution of 1688. Some of them, it is known, passed into the hands of the first Lord Somers; others perished of neglect, some, it is stated, within living memory. Those which remain are chiefly preserved in drawers in two presses in the muniment room.

Of these Nos. 1–3, 5–8, and 13 contain presentments, letters of attorney, minutes of court, and surrenders out of court, surveys, and rentals, running from the 17th century onwards, relative to the manors of Lindridge (*cum membris*), Boraston, Stoke Prior, and Wolverley, with surrenders of the rectory of Stoke Prior; and papers concerning the prebendal meadows.

No. 4 contains court rolls, views of frankpledge, and rentals of Stoke Prior ranging from 7 Edw. II. to the reign of Henry VIII. with some of later date. Among the papers included in this drawer are :—

Accounts of "a levie by the yard land in año 1647."

An account of Walter Hertylbury, almoner of Worcester priory, Michaelmas, 11–12 Hen. VI. [1432–1433].

No. 9 contains miscellaneous papers which have been gradually accumulated here by some principle of selection of documents in one way or another of special interest. Among them are:

A grant by the dean and chapter of the manors of Alveston, Tydyngton, and Icomb, and of the churches of Dodderhill and Lenchwick, to the king, Henry VIII., in consideration of his acquittance of their obligation to maintain students at Oxford. The copy was made in 1636, manifestly by an ignorant scribe, and runs as follows:—

"Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens Scriptum pervenerit Decanus et Capitulum Ecclesie Cathedralis Wigorn. salutem. Cum dominus Henricus octavus dei gratia Anglie, Francie, et Hibernie Rex fidei defensor et in terra Ecclesie Anglicane et Hibernice Supremum Caput per litteras suas patentes gerentes datum vicesimo quarto die Januarii Anno Regni sui tricesimo tercio de gracia sua speciali erexit et fundavit Ecclesiam Cathedralem predictam Ac per alias litteras suas patentes gerentes datum vicesimo quarto die Ianuarii Anno Regni sui tricesimo tercio dederit et concesserit nobis prefatis Decano et Capitulo et successoribus nostris, diversa maneria terras tenementa territorias ac alia possessiones et hereditamenta in eisdem litteris patentibus expressa et specificata prout per easdem speciales* litteras patentes inter alia plane liquet. Et ulterius cum dictus dominus Rex per ordinaciones et statuta fundacionis Ecclesie Cathedralis predicte ordinavit et constituit quod nos prefati decanus et capitulum et successores nostri Annuatim et imperpetuum invenire et sustentare deberemus duodecim sacre Theologie studentes Et ad onus sustentacionis cuiuslibet eorundem duodecim studencium solvere teneremus Annuatim sex libras septem solidos quatuor denarios et unum quadrantem legalis monete Anglie Sciatis quod nos prefati decanus et capitulum in consideratione et ea intencione quod dictus dominus Rex nunc heredes et successores sui nos prefatos Decanum et capitulum et successores nostros de onere et sustentacione studencium predictorum et eorum cuiuslibet de Cetero Imperpetuum exonerare Acquietare et Indempnes totaliter Conservare dignaretur unanimi consensu et assensu nostris dedimus concessimus et hoc presenti scripto nostro confirmavimus prefato domino nostro Regi totum illud dominium et manerium nostrum de Alveston et Tydyngton Ac dominia et maneria nostra de Alveston et Tydyngton cum suis Juribus membris et pertinentiis universis in Comitatu Warr. Ac totum illud dominium et manerium nostrum de Icome cum suis iuribus membris et pertinenciis universis in comitatu Wigorn. Ac totam Rectoriam nostram et ecclesiam nostram de Dudderhyll et . . . . Lenchewyke . . . . 20 Mart. anno Regni dicti domini regis nunc Henrici Octavi Tricesimo sexto."

Two other copies of this deed are preserved in this drawer; and there is a third in Reg. of D. & C. IV. f. 73*b*. The following memorial relates to the same subject:—

"To the right honourable my verie good Lord Sir William Peryam knight L. Cheife Baron of the Exchequer.

"Right honourable, accordinge to yo^{r} Lordshippes iust and favourable order taken in her ma^{ties} Court of Exchequer in Easter tearme last past upon a motion then made by M^{r} Attourney generall, and other our learned Cownsell, for the exoneration and extinguishment of an Arrer-

* The MS. has *sēpales* instead of *spēales*.

nge of vij^{li} xvi^{s}, whereby we the Deane and Chapter of Worcester be wrongfully charged, and ought in lawe, equitie, and good conscience to be long sithence dischardged Now if it may please yo^{r} good Lordshypp, and that honourable Court of Exchequer to be advertysed, We have sent vp this bearer M^{r} Carington our Treasurer wth our principall evidence to attend and satisfye your L^{p} and her ma^{ties} officers Whereby it shall appeare vnto yo^{w} that neyther by our Fowndacion from King H. theight our noble Fownder, nor dotation w^{ch} We praise god was made perfect, neyther by our imperfect local statute, w^{ch} never had lieffe by the untimelie death of our sayde most worthie Fownder, nor by anie other Record We stand bownd under reformation of the Cowrt to maintayne anie students in Oxford & Cambridge wth an Yearlie exhibition forth of our sayde Churches Lands and possessions as it is pretended. But in trueth we should have beane dischardged of that chardge before y^{e} death of our sayde Soveraigne Lord the King in consideracion of the surrender of the Lordshippes of Tyddington and Alveston parte of our sayde Churches possessions in the Cowntie of Warwicke and some other our Lands and tenements ells wheare, wh We surrendered to the sayde late Kinge H. 8^{t} ea intentione, y^{t} we should not be chardged wth the allowance to maintaine the sayde scholars in Oxford and Cambridge, and our Land beinge of a better valew, than the sayde exhibition was, we trust yo^{r} Honour, and y^{t} honourable Cowrt, will take order we shall be dischardged of the sayde exhibition & of y^{e} tenth of the sayde Lande surrendered, secundum equum et bonum et serenissimi principis intentionem. We most humbly pray in the right of our poore Church that we may not be wasted and consumed wth contynuall and chardgeable suytes as we have beane of long time. So we shall hartely pray to Almightie god for y^{e} contynuance of yo^{r} Ho^{r} in all honourable places of Justice and Judgement under her ma^{ties} most Royall person, and happie government, whom god preserve. From our Cathedral Church of Worcester the xth of Octob^{r} 1595.

Yo^{r} Lordshipps to be commaunded,
FRAN. WILLIS."

[The dean's signature is autograph.]

Endorsed :—D. Willis his letter to the Lo : Cheafe Baron, for discharg from keeping of schollers in Oxford & Cambridg.

A draught statement of the dean and chapter's case (undated) mentions that the 12 scholars (" students in divinitie ") received each 6*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.*

Papers relative to the prebend in the church attached by King Charles I. to the Lady Margaret's professorship of divinity at Oxford. Among them is a letter from T. Gaisford, afterwards dean of Christ Church, 25 Jan. 1827, relating to the vacancy in the chair caused by the death of Dr. Collinson ; it mentions that " There are several candidates in the field, and it is quite impossible to conjecture in the present state of things which is likely to be successful. Fausset of Magdalen, Symons of Wadham, Shuttleworth Warden of New Coll., D^{r} Nares of Merton, and I believe Hawkins of Oriel will offer themselves." [The first named was in fact elected.]

" An Inventorie of the plate and other things belonginge to the Cathedrall Church of Worc^{r} taken by Tho : Wilsson D : of Dyvynyty and Deane there and Tho : Bastard thresorer of the said churche and others of the chapter the 3 day of Decemb. An^{o} 1576, An^{o} Eliz. xix^{o}.

Imprimis, 3 gobletts with a cover all gylte.

Item,* 2 salts gylte.

---

* Written *Inte.*

Item, A flatt boule gylte.
Item, two cupps with covers parcel gylte.
Item, two white sylver cupps with covers.
Item, fyve spones with knupps, and one other to be Answered by B. Lewis.
Item, ix* playne spones.
Item, A sylver possent† potte for the communion.
Item, two sylver Cuppes & a plate for the communion.
Item, three garnysshe of pewter vessell.
Item, 2 possent‡ pottes.
Item, three changers.
Item, 4 dos table napkyns,
and 5 odde lost at thaudyte 1578.§
Item, 3 new course tableclothes.
Item, 6 olde table clothes.
Item, 2 table towels."

In a second column:

"for the quyer.
Inprimis tenne velvet Cussyons.
Item, 2 cussyons of tyssue.
Item, 4 cussyons of freres.
Item, an olde cussyon to kneele upon.
Item, 2 pulpitt clothes of tysshew.
Item, 2 coverings for the communion table
the one of tysshew, thother of flowres.
Item, 4 white cussyons. and 3 of whyte and grene damaske.
Item, a paule of blacke velvett.
Item, a canopie bought when the quene was here.
Item, 3 Longe carpetts to sytt upon at Sermons.
Item, a white cope.
Item, one new clothe for y^e^ communion table and an other old one for y^e^ same.
Item, 4 new cupbord clothes bought by M^r^ Carington thresorer, 4° decemb. an° 1578.

players gere.

A gowne of freres gyrdles. A womans gowne.
A K^s^‖ cloke of Tysshew. A Jerkyn and a payer of breches.
A lytill cloke of tysshew. A gowne of silk.
A Jerkyn of greene. 2 cappes and the devils apparell."

[The writing is faded and the paper injured by damp.]

An account of 19 July 1661 gives the cost of making new plate afte the interregnum—

	£	s.	d.
"Two flagons w^t^ 171^oz^ 17^dwt^ at 5^s^ 7^d^ p oz. is -	47	19	7
one bason w^t^ 82 4 at 5^s^ 7^d^ p oz. is -	22	18	11
two cupps & two covers and one bread plate guilt w^t^ is 096^oz^ at 7^s^ 4^d^ p oz. - - -	35	04	0
for graueing the Armes - - - -	00	04	0
for a box to pack them in - - -	00	02	6
	106	9	0"

* Perhaps [*s*]*ix*.
† Written *p9sent*.
‡ Written *p'sent*.
§ *sic*.
‖ *K^s^* uncertain.

An inventory of plate and other utensils for the year ending 28 Nov. 1684, and others of later date.

Papers concerning the petition of the city of Worcester [1641] against the D. & C. and their management of the cathedral service; and concerning a dispute between the same [1671–2] with reference to the immunities of the church.

Sundry accounts for repairs in the cathedral.

Petition from members of the choir to the D. & C. for compensation for their loss of income in 1645 and 1646 "in regard of the said warres and the king's enemies prevalency in the same times."

Plan showing "where to find the severall Graves of those that lye buried within the Rayles at the Altar before it paved by Mr. William Thorneburry the then Treasurer of the Colledge of Worcester" [temp. Ch. II.].

Order by the dean and chapter:

"July the 26, 1672.

Wee whose names are subscribed do hereby Give our Consents, That the Rich Arras shalbe sold to Dr Turner for One Hundreth & Fifty poundes in witness whereof we sett to or Handes.

Wm. Thomas.
Barnabas Oley, subd:
Nathanaell Tomkins.
Tho: Lamplugh.
H. Gresley.
W. Thornburgh."

Papers relating to the leaden steeple on the N.E. of the cathedral church:—

Account, Friday 18 Febr. 1647: "The Lords and Commons . . . being informed that in ye Cathedrall Church Yard of ye said City there is a steeple called the Leaden Steeple & fixed to the said Church, nor imployed to any other use then a wood house, the lead and other materialls of which steeple are estimated at above 1200lb," have therefore ordered and ordained that certain persons be empowered to sell the steeple, and to employ the money "for reedifying of ye said Almes-Houses . . . . & for ye repair of ye Churches of St John in Bedwardine . . ., Dodderhall, and Castlemorton." The steeple sold for 617*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*

"By the Comittee for the County and Cytty of Worcester. Ordered that Mr John Tylt shall forth wth paye unto Mr James Warwicke minister of Handley Castle Ten pounds out of the overplus of meanes remayneinge in his hands raised by the sale of Lead for the repaireinge of the Colledge Church at Worcester. Given vnder our hands this 15 daye of September 1651.

B. Lechmere.
William Dingley.
Gervase Bucke.
Wm. Collins.
Edw. Elvines."

Order to John Tilte from the committee for the city and county of Worcester for the payment of 20*l.* "out of the overplus of moneyes Remayning in his hands raised by the sale of lead for the repayring of the Colledge Church at Worcester" to "Mr. Symon Moore Minister of the Colledge att Worcester, being a very faithfull precher of God's word and of singular good affection to the Government of this Commonwealth," who had "suffered greate losses by the Scotch Army at Worcester." *Signed* by B. Lechmere and four others. 13 Sept. 1651.

Order for a further sum of 10*l.* to be paid to S. Moore out of the "overplus of money raysed of lead taken of the Colledge church to repaire and keepe the same for a publike meeteing place for the service of god," 17 January 1652[–3].

A like warrant to "pay unto Henry Nason Clarke of the Colledge at Worcester the symme of Ten Poundes out of the Remainder of moneyes raised of the lead taken of the College Church," 10 Aug. 1653.

Many other warrants of like contents.

Warrant of Charles II. assigning rents for the repair of the cathedral church, 9 Oct. 1660.

An estimate of "Damages done to the Cathedral Church of Worcester (as is supposed by the late powers") dated 6 November 1660. The sum is 1635*l.*, whereof nearly one-half is charged for lead taken off all the roofs, and priced at 20*l.* the fother. The "Bookes, Brazen Eagle, Communion plate" are valued at 100*l*; the organ at 700*l.*

Copy of letters of privy seal of Charles I. revoking reversionary almsmen's places, countersigned by Fran: Windebank, 31 Jan. 1637[–8].

Resolutions of D. & C. 1 Feb. 1642–3, inter alia agreeing to supply King Charles I. with 1000*l.* to be obtained by the felling of "timber trees out of Cornwood."

"The bill for the Auditours supper at Talbout 25 Novemb. 1627,

"for shoulder of mutton	-	-	1 2
for Capon -	-	-	1 4
for a Rabbet	-	-	0 8
for fier -	-	-	0 4
for bread and beare	-	-	4 6
Sume	-	-	8[s] 0."

The bill for the audit in Nov. 1763 was 76*l.* 07*s.* 02½*d.*

Other audit bills run from 1661 onwards.

Account for building "the newe double Organs in the Cathedral Church" [1613] with particulars of the registrature and a list of subscribers.

Letter to the D. & C. recommending one Bartholomew Mason for a vicarage in their gift. *Signed* by

W. Burghley. F. Warwyk. R. Leycester.
F. Knollys. Francys Croft.

Dat. 14 March. *s.a.*

Letters missive from Elizabeth to D. & C. for the election of Richard Fletcher bp. of Bristol to the see. *Signed.*

Dat. 13 Jan. 1592. Hampton Court.

Papers "touching the paym[t] of Tyth salt ariseinge out of the Bullaries of Salt Water within the Burrough" of Droitwich. 5 Oct. 17 Jac. I. [1619].

Notes of deodands [1678–1720].

Memoranda and accounts relating to Pentecostals or "Whitson farthings," 17th and 18th cent.

Legal opinions, draughts, and miscellaneous papers and memoranda on various subjects relating to the property and personal affairs of the dean and chapter; including papers relating to the debts secured on the bridge tolls at Worcester, 1777–1782, and to the leasehold houses belonging to the dean and chapter which were pulled down "for the purpose of Widening and making a better Entrance into the High Street of Worcester from Sidbury," 1796.

Letters of George Morley [bishop successively of Worcester and Winchester]. In one to [Barnabas] Oley [prebendary of Worcester], dated "Lond. Aug. 13," [1661] the writer says:

> "The King tells me he will certainly visit us at Worcester some time betwixt this and Micklemas, but the precise time when he will be there he cañot yet resolve on; Only he tells me it cañot be soe soone as y^e^ 3^d^ of September, w^ch^ I am sorry for, because the only end of this journey being to pay God his thanks upon y^e^ place where he received y^t^ great deliverance from his bloody and mallicious enemies, it were to be wished it might have bin upon y^e^ same day as well as y^e^ same place y^t^ it might have bin Opus diei in die suo; w^ch^ though it cañot be in his Matyes presence yet I hope y^t^ day will be kept as a sollemne festivall, & that you will have sollemne services and a sermon in y^e^ Cathedrall Church for y^t^ purpose upon y^t^ day. I send by Mr. Thisscrosse a Commission under the great Seal to authorise severall Devines of severall parts of my Diocese to demand & collect from all my Clergy such summs as God shall enlarge theyr hearts to give unto the King by way of Benevolence or a freewill offering; In w^ch^ service to God & y^e^ King I hope they will in proportion to theyr meanes be much more forward & liberall then any of y^e^ Laietie, partly because it becomes us to be an example in this as well as in all other well-doing, & partly because we of all all [*sic*] other orders of men are most obliged to his Maty & have most dependence on his Maty. . . . . I must tell you likewise y^t^ it is expected y^t^ y^e^ Dean and Chapter of all Cathedrall Churches should make a present to y^e^ King as frō the whole body; And in this Capacity y^e^ Dean & Chapter of Westminster do (as I am informd) give the King 2000*l*; And it is hoped y^t^ all Cathedrall Churches will do y^e^ like in proportion; w^ch^ I tell you of y^t^ you may tell y^e^ rest of yo^r^ brethren y^t^ are there."* Signed "Geor: Worcester."

Letter from W. Digby, dean of Worcester, written 28 August 1777 just after his promotion to the deanery of Durham: "I kissd the Queens hand this day, It was rumored at Court that Philadelphia was seized by the Quakers for Government, Some beleivd, Some not. Lord Sandwich was there and congratulated me."

"Considerations touching the appeal from the Caball," an anonymous contemporary tract, giving 20 reasons. It is taken from "England's Appeal from the private Cabal at Whitehall to the Great Council of the Nation" (1673), which was reprinted in "State Tracts printed in the Reign of Charles II." (1693 folio), where the "Considerations" begin on pp. 25.†

An account of "The severall branches of his Matie^s^ Revenue ordered by the Coñittee to be reported to the house: 3° Junii, 1663."

Drawers 10 and 11, the former labelled "Ancient Manuscripts," are filled chiefly with about 400 charters, those dated ranging from 44 Hen. III. to 20 Hen. VII., with a few of greater age and one of 2 Car. I. They relate to lands and rents in the city of Worcester (where mention is made of Eport Street and Hulton Street) at Alvechurch, Alveston [co. Warw.], Ancredam, Astewodefeld, Barrow

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* An account preserved in the same drawer shows the "present" to have amounted to 1000*l*. between 22 Feb. 1661/2 and 30 March 1663.

† I owe this identification to the kindness of my friend Mr. C. H. Firth, M.A., Balliol College.

(or La Barewe), Batenhale, Bedwardyn, Birlingham, Blacwell, Bradeburne, Bradekote, Bradewas, St. Briavel, Bromwich, Burford [co. Salop], Caluwhull, Canterton, Chorleton, Churchehille, Cliva, Clodeshale, Crombe Symond, Cropthorne, Crowel, Doddeham, Donastede (or Dunhampstede), Druymerston, Grimel (Grymhulle or Grimley), Hallow, Herforton, Holwey, Horsham, Hynewick, Iccombe, Kekingwick, Kelbury, Kemeseye, Knighton, Kynewick, Lawern, Lindriche, Marleclyve, Middlefeld, Nether Sapi, Netherton, Northwick, Oldfeld, Overbarrow, Overbury, Little Pakington, Pechesleye, Peneduk, Puclesdon, Pydele, Schirnak, Shipston on Stour, Spechley, Stourbridge, Sydenhale, Temple Lawerne, Thodintona [co. Glouc.], Tilleshope, Totesbache, Tymberden, Westwood, Whitinton, Wikenhull, Wolverley, Wyke Dabitot, and Wyke Episcopi.

Of these charters most of the first 51 are in drawer 11, the rest in drawer 10. A manuscript catalogue of them was made by Peter Prattinton, M.D., in 1824, giving the names of the parties and places, with the date, where any appears, and a note as to the seal. The charters which bear no obvious date, in other words most of the earlier ones, and fully one half of the whole collection, are left without any further indication than "s. d." Some of the charters bear no number, and it has not been possible to identify all those which are catalogued.

Among them may be noticed:—

No. 41. "Fama referente ad nos Offic' Wygorñ pervenit quod Religiosi viri domini Prior et Conventus Monasterii beate Marie Wygorñ in Ecclesia de Hallowe quoniam sibi appropriatam canonice asserunt et pretendunt ius Archidiaconale sibi vendicant in eadem, Decanum creant, apparitorem constituunt, capitula inibi convocant et celebrant, causas audiunt, crimina corrigunt seu corrigere se dicunt, mulctas a delinquentibus exigunt et illas in usus proprios pro suo libito convertunt, exempcionem et libertatis specialem prerogativam pretendentes, quamquam ad premissa de iure communi sint inhabiles iudicandi. Vnde super hoc ego officii nostri debito intendimus inquirere et quod iustum fuerit statuere seu dictare." [Early 13th cent.]

No. 138. The original of the "Confirmatio W. de Bleys ep. super pens. eccl." printed in Hale's "Registrum," f. 29*b*.

No. 153. Grant of "septem seyliones terre . . . in campo de Meuleye iuxta Foulbroc" [13th cent.].

No. 177. "Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit. Silvester dei gratia Wigorñ ecclesie minister humilis eternam in domino salutem. Sanctam filiorum prioris et conventus Wigorñ conversacionem attendentes et eorum paupertati pio patris affectu consulere volentes. Ecclesiam sancte Helene cum pertinenciis suis cuius tam patronatus quam personatus ad eos pertinere dinoscitur, intuitu dei eis presentium auctoritate duximus conferendam in usus prioris perpetuo iure convertendum. Volumus igitur ut dicti prior et conventus memorate ecclesie vel cuiuscumque porcionis illius cum vacaverit possessionem ingrediantur nullius assensu requisito. Et de proventibus illius pro voluntate sua disponant. Salva capellanorum in prefata ecclesia in capellis suis debito modo deserviencium honesta sustentacione. Et in prefatam ecclesiam cum omnibus pertinenciis suis cum omni libertate et integritate sua, quiete et pacifice in perpetuum possideant. Salvo nobis et successoribus nostris iure pontificali et parochiali. Et ut omnia predicta perpetuum robur obtineant, ea presenti scripto et sigilli nostri apposicione confirmavimus. Hiis testibus. Magistro Nicholao Hamptoñ tunc officiali nostro, magistro Johanne de Wichia. Regiñ

et Thom̃ Capellanis. Willelmo de Budiford et Helya et Waltero Lench et Willelmo de Huntind clericis et multis aliis." [*Parchment.* 1216–1218.]

No. 196. Draught of a letter asking a favour, for which the writer (apparently "T. de S.") hoped to have had the intercession of "Meistre Johan de Stratford." *French.* [*Parchment.* 14th cent.]

No. 228. Draught of a summons [apparently by the prior of Worcester] for a chapter meeting to consider matters requiring correction, "si quid compertum fuerit" in the bishop's late visitation, before the bishop's return. [14th cent.]

No. 248. Letter of the sub-prior and canons of St. Sepulchre, Warwick, 15 Oct. 1338, fixing 3 Nov. for the election of a prior in lieu of brother Guy resigned.

No. 271*. Exemplification of letter of prior and chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury [1275], reciting the composition of Archbishop Boniface [1268] which confirmed the prior and chapter of Worcester in their full episcopal jurisdiction and power *sede vacante*, but reserving all rights to the chapter of Canterbury in the case of a vacancy also in the archbishoprick.

No. 285. Memorandum of an agreement between Mr. Thomas de Cantilupo, rector of St. Austin's, Doderhulle, and sundry persons (whose surnames are extremely curious), touching the titles of salt and salt mines; the latter engaging to pay one quarter of salt from each four vats *unum quarterium salis de singulis quatuor plumbis*), and so in proportion in lieu of tithe. (*Parchment.* Late 13th cent.)

No. 311*. Inspeximus by Roger bishop of Worcester, of charter of Hugh son of Osbert, confirming to the prior and monks of "Wyrcestre," *elemosinam patris mei Osberti quam ipse dedit eis*, to wit, Burestona and the church of Dudrenhulla,* and also granting them a salt mine at Wich of 20*s*. "Teste Ailrico archidiacono. hugone archidiacono. frithorico. Colebrando decano. Wilfwio presbitero supranominate ecclesie de dudrenhulla. Thancredo capellano meo. Adam fratre meo. Thurstino avunculo meo. Ric. de escrop. Rad. de coleshulla. Ric. filio Hildewini. Aldewino de Bureford. Crusi de codderugi."

The inspeximus dated "a. inc. dominice. M. C. LXX. V. v. Id. Apr. in cripta Wigorn. eccl. ante altare sc̃i Petri. his testibus. Thoma suppriore. Gervasio camerario. Senato cantore. Alano. Johanne de Beib[er]i. Waltero de omnibus sanctis. Magistro Moyse. Magistro Silvestro. Magistro Godefrido. Abel. Rob. de Cliftuna. Hug. de Saio. Rob. de luci. Hug. poer. Adam filio Edwini prepositi et multis aliis, prefato hugone de saio presente et cum fratre suo osb. consensum suum fide in manu nostra transposita confirmante."

No. 326. Confirmation by Walter [Reynolds] abp. of Canterbury [1317], of appropriation of the church of Doderhull to the prior and chapter of Worcester [1313].

Besides the earlier numbered charters drawer 11 contains miscellaneous charters, bonds, patents, appointments, mandates, congés d'élire, &c. A large number of the charters are so torn or defaced by damp as to be nearly illegible; few, if any, of these appear to belong to an earlier date than the fourteenth century.

Among the contents are—

Charter of Edward II. confirming the privileges of the church of Worcester. Joh. Cant., chancellor. *York:* 7 June, anno 9 [1316].

* Cf. Thomas, Appendix, p. 5.

The like of Edward III. H. Linc. chancellor. 6 Oct. anno 3 [1329]. Seal lost.

The like of Henry VI. *Westminster:* 20 July, anno 24 [1446].

Pardon of Edward III. to the prior and convent for their appropriation without licence of the church of Dodderhill. *Kenington:* 22 May, anno 33 [1359].

Drawer 12, labelled "Ancient Manuscripts, &c.," contains certificates, citations, indentures, and various other deeds ranging from 1331 to 1615. They were examined in 1881 by Bishop Hobhouse, who has left a rough docket of each bundle.

Among them are—

"Rotulus Bonorum Temporalium in Episcopatu Wygorñ" with the sums paid by each religious house. c. 1300. It is not copied (as suggested by Bishop Hobhouse) from Pope Nicolas's Taxatio; but the sums paid are calculated on the basis of $\frac{1}{20}$ of the figures in that valor.

License of Henry [VI. ?] to the convent to make a conduit to supply the convent with water from Hynnewyk [Henwick] over Severnbridge.

Citation by the abbats of Oseney and Rewley and the prior of St. Frydeswyde [Oxford] in the diocese of Lincoln, appointed by John XXII. to act in the matter, requiring the prior and monks of Great Malvern to appear at Pershore to answer for their resistance to the prior of Worcester's visitation *sede vacante*. 1333.

Valor of the property of the College Church of Worcester, as founded by Henry VIII. Anno 32. The roll is wrapped in two leaves of a handsome late twelfth century service book (propria sanctorum), of which other leaves, once used as fly-leaves or wrappers, are preserved among the muniments.

Injunctions ordered by Richard Davids, professor of divinity, Thomas Tonge and Roland Meyrigg, professors of the laws, and Richard Pates, professor of the comein lawes of this realme, Queen Elizabeth's visitors, for observance by the dean and chapter. (n. d.)

Drawer 14, labelled "Ancient Charters," contains leases, grants, quitclaims, &c. Many are of the 13th cent. They have been numbered and briefly described by Bishop Hobhouse.

In other drawers and presses lie large numbers of compotus and court rolls, and similar documents. These are entirely unarranged, and it seemed inadvisable to enter upon what would necessarily be the heavy task of examining them. It may be presumed that they relate exclusively to the manors belonging to the chapter, though it is, of course, possible that other documents have strayed in among them.

Besides the presses and drawers already described the muniment room contains a box full of charters, many of which appear in strictness to belong not to the dean and chapter, but to the bishop.

Among them are:—

Charter of John granting to master Mauger, elect of Worcester, and his successors "tales libertates et quietancias et dignitates in maneriis suis de Hertebery et de Hembyr' et de Aluithecbirche cum pertinentiis quales habeant in aliis maneriis suis Episcopatus Wigorn' . . . . sicut bone memorie Ricardi Regis fratris nostri carta testatur. Testibus Viviano Archidiacono Derebyeñ, Roberto Capellano

nostro, Johanne de Braoncestr̃, R. Com̃ Leicestr̃, W. Com̃ de Arundel, W. Mariscallo, Com̃ de Penbroc, Willelmo de Aubeigny, Warino filio Geroldi, Fulcone de Kantilupo. Data per manum H. Cantuar Archiepiscopi Cancellarii nostri apud Sagium, Octavo die Augusti Anno Regni Nostri Primo" [1199].

Grant by Wm. Picot of lands to the convent. Witnesses: Thomas Prior [de Sancto Se]pulchro,* . . . de Carevilla, John Matin [?], Thomas de Cestreton, clerks: Jordan de Vir[?]ram . . . ilespeth, Symon de la Newelande, Huctred . . . Robert [C]aunin, William Telneui, Geoffrey de Spechele. *Very fragmentary.* [c. 1200.]

Grant of Godfrey [de Lucy] bishop of Winchester to the church of St. Thomas the Martyr de Lesnes [or Westwood, in Kent] and the canons there of his house "de Stranda" with its buildings, &c.; "salvo eo quod Johannes de Luci predictam domum cum omnibus pertinentiis suis quoad vixerit habebit et tenebit reddendo inde annuatim predictis Canonicis de Lesnes dim̃ Marc̃ argenti." *Winchester:* 25 Aug. anno pontif. xv°. [1204]. *Test.* "Gregorio Unfrido Capellanis. Ph. de Luci, Rob. de Luci, Magistro Willelmo de Terri Clericis, Johanne de Briws, Stephano de exclusa, militibus, et multis aliis."

Deed of sale by John de Luci to Mauger bp. of Worcester of certain houses in the Strand, and of their rents, "unde Godefridus de Luci pater meus antequam esset episcopus terram emit et domos fecit."

Witnesses: Goscelin Marshall, Master Michael de Bukinton', Peter Caball', Master Anfr', Robert of Antioch, William Le Norreis, Abel de Wigorn' John de Wigorn', Richard Camerarius, Warin le Goiz, Robert Scrippe, Asegod, William Telneui, William Capell, Master Nicholas, Alexander Le Gorgurer, Ingulf his brother, Ascelin Le Meirin, Stephen Clerk, and many others. [c. 1200.] *Seal.*

Final concord between Henry son of John of Trochemertoñ and Mauger bishop of Worcester, whereby the former acknowledges the grant by the bishop of half a hide claimed by him at Fladebir' [Fladbury] "de se hereditario tenendam salvo eidem domino meo Episcopo et successoribus eius et domino Regi antiquo et debito servicio eiusdem dim̃ hide," and half a hide "in hamello de Hulla," saving as before, et preterea salvo ei novo servicio et successoribus eius quod ego pro illa dim̃ hida debeo, scilicet octo solidos per annum," the grantee surrendering all claim to a virgate in Norwich [Northwick] and half a hide in Upton. Witnesses: Ric. Louel parson of Fladbury, Rob. Pipart, Hug. Pipart, Osb. of Lench, Simon de Noualanda, Will. de Mora, Will. Egue, Rob. de Trochemertoñ, Jordan de Wicowañ, Mr. German, Thom. Boet, Ric. Camerarius, and others. [c. 1200.]

License of King John to Bp. Walter [de Grey] to assart in his wood of Fladbury. Witnesses: P. bp. of Winchester, Wm. Briwerr, Hugh de Nevill, Walter de Lascy, William de Kantilup̃, Hugh de Mortuo Mari, James de Poterna, Henry de Ponte Audomar̃. "Dat' per manum Magistri Ric̃ de Marisco cancellarii nostri apud Turrim Londoñ xv March a° 16." [1214–15.]

Privilege of Gregory IX.:

"Gregorius episcopus servus servorum dei Dilectis filiis magistro et fratribus domus militie Templi in Anglia Salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Cum a nobis petitur quod iustum est et honestum, tam vigor equitatis quam ordo exigit rationis ut id per sollicitudinem officii

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* Probably at Warwick.

nostri ad debitum perducatur effectum. Ea propter, dilecti in domino filii, vestris iustis postulationibus inclinati, omnes libertates et immunitates a predecessoribus nostris Romanis pontificibus per privilegia et alias indulgentias domui vestre concessas, libertates et exemptiones secularium exactionum a regibus et principibus ac aliis Christi fidelibus rationabiliter vobis indultas, terras quoque possessiones et alia bona vestra sicut ea omnia iuste ac pacifice obtinetis vobis et per vos eidem domui, auctoritate apostolica confirmamus et presentis scripti patrocinio communimus. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre confirmationis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Siquis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis dei et beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum ejus se noverit incursurum. Dat' apud Vrbem veterem v. Id. Septembr' Pontificatus nostri Anno primo." [1227.]

[*The seal is lost; but the red and yellow silk which tied it remains.*]

Mandate of Innocent IV.:

"Innocentius episcopus servus servorum dei. Dilectis filiis . . Decano ecclesie Warewykie Wigorniensis diocesis et Roberto de Cathebroc Canonico Lichefeldensi Salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Cum dilectos filios Egidium Decanum Capellanum nostrum et Canonicos Herefordenses necnon et Herefordensem ecclesiam cum omnibus bonis que impresentiarum ijdem Canonici omnes et singuli et ecclesia predicta rationabiliter ac pacifice possident aut in futurum iustis modis dante domino poterunt adipisci sub beati Petri et nostra protectione duxerimus admittendos. Discretioni vestre per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatinus dictos Decanum et Canonicos ac eorum singulos necnon ipsorum ecclesiam non permittatis contra protectionis nostre tenorem super premissis ab aliquibus indebite molestari. Molestatores huiusmodi per censuram ecclesiasticam appellatione postposita compescendo. Non obstante si aliquibus a sede apostolica sit indultum quod excommunicari aut interdici nequeant vel suspendi absque sedis eiusdem speciali mandato plenam et expressam faciente de indulto huiusmodi mentionem. Quod si non ambo hiis exequendis potueritis interesse alter vestrum ea nichilominus exequatur. Dat Perusii iij Non. Febr. Pontificatus nostri Anno Nono." [3 Feb. 1252.]

[*Tied with hemp: seal lost.*]

Notarial attestation of bishop Nicolas of Worcester's letters patent declaring the prior and chapter to have free power of action, administration, and jurisdiction *sede vacante*. *Alvechurch*: 6 Jan. 1266–7 (attested *London*: 22 Feb.).

Citation by Ottoboni cardinal deacon of St. Adrian and legate of the apostolic see to [Boniface] archbishop of Canterbury requiring him to appear himself or by his proctor to answer for the conduct of friar Martin of Clyve, whom the archbishop had appointed his vicar and commissary general for the creation of officials in vacant dioceses, and who had in company with Mr. William de Rokelande appointed official by him exercised sundry powers in the diocese of Worcester during the vacancy of the see by the death of bishop Walter, to the manifest prejudice of the established rights of the prior and chapter *sede vacante*. *Warwick*: 19 August anno pont. Clem. IV. 2. [1267.]

"Memorandum quod convenientibus venerabilibus patribus dominis Nicholao Wintoñ suffraganeorum Cantuar' provincie decano, Rogero Coventr' et Lichefeld' Waltero Exonieñ Willelmo Bathoñ et Welleñ Godefrido Wygornieñ et Iohanne Hereford Episcopis, Anno Domini m° ce° Septuagesimo apud Rading'. In crastino dominice qua cantatur Letae Ierusalem ad tractandum super indempnitatibus suis et suarum

ecclesiarum ac suorum subditorum et precipue ecclesie sue metropolitane sedis Cantuar'; necnon super hoc quod sede metropolitana vacante monachi ecclesie Christi Cantuar' usurpare nituntur in personis et ecclesiis et ecclesiis suffraganeorum episcoporum provincie Cantuar' iurisdictionem metropolitanum contingentem, quam nunquam hactenus obtinuerunt, in non modicum preiudicium dictorum suffraganeorum ecclesiarum suarum et subditorum suorum, falces suas in messes alienas mittere indebite tractantes, nichil iuris ex hoc, comodi, seu honoris futuro metropolitano attribuentes seu adquirentes, licet per hoc colore quesito presumpcionem suam querant palliare: Unanimi consensu dictorum dominorum convenit ne quod inter eos salubriter et unanimiter statutum fuerit ordinatum seu provisum super premissis tractu temporis aliquorum vel alicuius dissensu valeat in irritum vel ad iniquum revocari; Videlicet ut quod ab omnibus statutum fuerit ab omnibus equanimiter supportetur et onere equali sustentetur et sub fidei religione securitas legitima de inviolabili communis eorum provisionis observacione prestetur. Salva in omnibus auctoritate sedis apostolice et metropolitani Cantuar'. Ad que omnia et singula premissa fideliter et plenarie observanda singuli predictorum dominorum Episcoporum sese ad invicem obligarunt bona fide promittentes se omnia et singula predicta observaturos et pro viribus suis et impleturos et super sumptibus circa deffensionem predictorum factis, si quis fieri contingat, pro rata seu porcione quemlibet eorum contingente plenarie satisfacturos. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti memorando dicti domini episcopi sigilla sua fecerunt apponi." *Seals lost.*

Letters patent to Godfrey bp. of Worcester "quod domos suas infra clausum suum Wygorñ et quandam domum suam infra manerium suum de Wydyndon in comitatu Glouc' muro de petra et calce firmare possit et kernellare ad modum castri." *Westminster:* 20 October 55 H. III. [1271.]

Acts of the court of arches in proceedings against the dean and chapter of the prebendal church of St. Mary, Warwick. [1284 ?]

A mandate of Robert [Kilwardby] abp. of Canterbury to the official of the archdeacon of Gloucester declaring the action of the prior of Worcester in exerting authority over Gloucester and Tewkesbury during the last vacancy of the see to be null and void and contrary to the composition made between abp. Boniface and the prior and convent. The reference is to the high-handed proceedings of the prior in March 1302 in attempting to visit those monasteries, and then in issuing excommunications against them for refusing to submit to his jurisdiction.* *Fulham:* 13 July, 1303. *Seal* in fair preservation.

Attested copy of the commission from Gwill' Testa, administrator of the archbishoprick of Canterbury, to the prior as official during the vacancy following the death of William of Geynesburh. *London:* 9 September 1307.

A strip of parchment containing copies of the following documents:—

a. Mandate of the prior of Worcester to the abbat of Gloucester announcing his intention, as official and administrator of spirituals *sede vacante*, of visiting the abbey and appointing a day for the visitation (Sat. after St. Luke's day next ensuing). *Worcester:* 2 December 1313.

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* See the Prior's Reg. sede vacante, ff. xxii–xxv.

b. The abbat of Gloucester's reply,

"Venerande religionis viro domino . . priori ecclesie cathedralis Wyg', qui se dicit gerere curam offic[ialis] et administracionem spiritualium in civitate et diocesi Wyg' sede vacante, ut asseritur per eundem, Frater J. permissione divina abbas monasterii Sancti Petri Glouc' et eiusdem loci conventus salutem et fraternam in Domino caritatem: Litteras vestras die Mercurii in vigil[ia] Sancti Nicholai hora vesperarum recepimus formam que sequitur continens: Prior et c. Vestro mandato si, prout, et quatenus de iure tenemur et non alias parere intendimus iure nostro et monasterii nostri predicti semper salvo." *Gloucester:* 8 Dec. anno supradicto.

c. Commission of Henry, prior of Canterbury, appointing the prior of Worcester official during the vacancy of the see with full episcopal jurisdiction. *Given in chapter:* St. Katharine's day, 1313.

d. Monition of the prior of Worcester to the abbat and convent of Gloucester because they refused him admission on his visitation: "Nos igitur Prior Officialis et administrator antedictus vos Abbatem Sancti Petri Glouc', Priorem, Suppriorem, Cellerarium, Precentorem, Hostilarium, Coquinarium, Infirmarium, et elemosinarium eiusdem loci, omnes et singuli eciam de conventu memorato monemus primo secundo et tercio et una monicione pro omnibus peremptorie."

e. The prior's sentence of excommunication of the abbat and convent of Gloucester. [The list of obedientiaries is here fuller than in the monition, "sacristam" coming after "suppriorem," and "camerarium" after "precentorem."]

f. This is followed by the effectus composicionis declaring the powers of the prior *sede vacante;*

g. by the effect of the confirmation of the prior and chapter of Canterbury, saving their rights if the sees of Canterbury and Worcester chance to be void at the same time;

h. by the effect of archbishop Peckham's confirmation of the same;

i. by the effect of pope Clement's confirmation of the same.

On the dorse are copied:

k. Mandamus of Clement [V.] to the chancellor of the church of Hereford to protect the rights of the abbat and convent of Gloucester in the tithes of the church "sancti Cannoti de Devennok" in the diocese of St. Davids, now threatened by the prior and convent of the priory of Brech[on]. *Avignon:* 9 April 5 pont. [1310.]

And

l. The dean of Brech[on]'s promise to obey the chancellor's mandate to attend in Hereford cathedral on a day appointed. *Brecon:* Tuesday after St. Mathias 1311.

A copy of documents relating to the appropriation of "Estecherche in Scapeya" to the abbey of Boxlee [Kent], with confirmation by archbishop Walter [Reynolds]. 1314.

Three fragmentary inventories (from a book cover) of the 14th century, enclosed in an envelope with a letter from Sir Thomas Phillipps [17 August 1843], who says "They contained when perfect a list of the silver plate and jewells of the Cathedral or Priory, one of which articles appears to have been given by Alianora, Queen of England, but whether

of Hen. 2 or 3 I cannot say." They contain also lists of vestments, books, and furniture; but are almost illegible.

Commission of Guillerinus cardinal priest of St. Laurence in Lucina to the subprior of Worcester to make enquiry into charges of irregularity brought against prior John [Evesham]. *Avignon:* 23 Jan. 3 Urb. V. [1364–5].

Exemplification by Richard II. of the "carta" of the bishop of Worcester showing his due amount of military service, as recorded in the red book in the exchequer at f. 100. *Patent.* 16 May 10 Regni. [1389].

"Dimissorium Fratris Iohannis Stretforde custodis Capelle beate Marie ecclesie Cathedralis Wygorñ factum Fratri Willelmo Duttone succedenti in eodem officio iii° die Mensis Marcii Anno Domini millesimo CCC^mo^ nonogesimo primo testatur que et quot rem[anent] in dicta capella vz̄ j casula dalmatica tunica cum alba stola et manipulo de una secta de alba amita diasperat' de dono domini Godefridi quondam episcopi Wygorn'.* Item j casula de rubeo serico cum ramis et foliis de auro superintextis cum dorso de blueto felewet cum ymagine auro superintexto ex dono Iohannis Glouc'. Item j casula de virid' taffeta. Item j casula de rubeo felewet. Item j casula de opere penetrato. Item j casula cum aquilis et leonibus superintextis cum alba et amita de eadem secta. Item j casula de virid' serico cum animalibus superintexta. Item j casula de filo blueto cum floribus et Grifonibus argenteis superintextis. Item j alba cum amita preciosa deaurat' cuius ymagines sunt de serico de passione sancte Katerine de dono Fratris Willelmi Mose. Item j alba bona cuius ymagines sunt de serico super eadem consute. Item j alba cum amita de rubeo felewet cum ymaginibus et leonibus auri superintextis. Ex dono Fratris Iohannis Glouc.' Item j alba cum amita cum pavonibus et cervis de albo serico et arboribus virid' superintext'. Item j alba cum amita stola et manipulo de viridi taffeta cum rosis albis superintexta. Item j alba cum alba stola et manipulo de viridi felewet cum scutis de armis domini de Berkeleye de dono eiusdem domini. Item ij parure et due amite de una secta cum floribus argent' superintext' de dono W. Goldesmyth. Item j alba super quam sunt parure quondam Fratris R. de Henleye cum leopardis rub[eis] et viridibus cum stola et manipulo de eadem secta. Item j alba cum parur' de serico rubeo et croceo de opere indentato cum stola et manipulo de eadem secta. Item j alba cum amita cum stola et manipulo de eadem secta, de † ceruis in eisdem contextis. Item j alba cum amita in cuius parur' sunt angeli agni et episcopi de albo serico superintextis.‡ Item j alba cum stola et manipulo de viridi serico. Item j stola cum manipulo de albo filo superintexto serico. Item j alia preciosa alba de viciis et virtutibus cum amita de eadem secta. Item j stola cum manipulo de glauc' cum ymaginibus superintextis. Item viij zone quarum j est de rubeo serico et relique de albo filo. Item j zona preciosa ex dono Cecilie Stoctoñ script' cum litteris aurifriciat'. Item casus corporalis cum crucifixo de albo serico. Item j alius de viridi serico. Item alius de rota fortune. Item j calix. Item j baudekyn cum tuellis eidem consutis. Item ij tuell' cum frontell'. Item ij frontell' ex dono Fratris I. Leomstre et R. Merstoñ. Item j tuell' consut' albo filo diasperat'. Item ij tuell' ex dono W. Goldesmyth et Is' uxoris sue. Item vj tuell'. Item ij manutergia. Item

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* See his will, in Thomas, Append. 69, p. 78.

† So, apparently, for *cum*. ‡ *Sic.*

ij al' tuell' cum manutergio novo non dum sanctificato. Item xij sup[er]pellicia pro Clericis unde vj debiles. Item j nova alba non dum sanctificata. Item j frontell' de baudekyn cum leopardis aur' superintext'. Item j mappa bona de dono Cecilie Stocton non dum sanctificata. Item ij tapet' virid' cum bubonibus. Item j rubeum cum scutis in angulis. Item j de opere Saricenorum. Item j de pilis camelorum stragulat'. Item ij tapecia diversis modis stragulata cum lineis glaucis et rubeis. Item circa gefynam j coronale preciosum cum pendulis circum faciem unius secte valentis * xl. d. Item j pileum eiusdem secte pro puero cuius precium ignotum est. Item ix anuli de auro xij deaurati et argent'. Item viij flameole de serico. Item j pix† eburneus.‡ Item iij patelle enee pro cera fundenda. Item j thurribulum de cupro deaurato cum cathenis argent'. Item ij bacine enee ad manus sacerdotum lavand'. Item j statera parva enea cum v ponderibus de plumbo. Item j statera maior cuius folia sunt de corio cum iij ponderibus magnis de marmore. Item iij cera filit' et non filit' xxxj lb cere. Item tabula eburnea ex dono cuiusdam monachi de Teukesbur'. Item j cista de Elmo ex dono Fratris Walteri Lye prioris. Item j novus liber de organo et planu § cantu. Item j lagenum oleo pro lampad'. Et preter hec defic' de diversis catallis de tempore Fratris Johannis Whitechurch predecessoris nostri, videlicet j mappa. Item ij tuell. Item ij superpellicia. Item ij virid' tapet' cum sert' in angulis vend' Waltero Priori. Item ij tapet' stragulat'. Item j scanda sc. de plumbo pro oleo. Item de cera cxlvj lb. cere. Item defic' de pecunia recept' x marc' vij *s.* ij *d.* Item in manibus diversis ut patet in pede computi viij *s.* vj *d.* in manibus Ric. atte Mulle iij *s.* Willelmi Bryan ij *s.* vj *d.* Thome Belue vij *s.* Joh. Lynch xij *s.* vidue de Petteworthe."

Mandate of Boniface IX. ordering the bishop of Worcester, the abbat of Gloucester, and the prior of Wormesley to assist with full judicial powers the dean and chapter of Hereford in recovering the goods and possessions whereof they complained that they were unjustly despoiled. *Rome, St. Peter's:* 9 Kal. Jan. anno pontif. 15. [23 Dec. 1403.] Tied with string.

Grant by John abbat of Tewkesbury of a pension to John bishop of Worcester charged upon the priory of Deerhurst lately appropriated to the church of Tewkesbury. *Tewkesbury:* 3 May 1469.

Pardon of Henry VII. to prior and convent for diverse transgressions. *Westminster:* 24 June. a° 1. [1486].

In a strong box in the Bishop's registry are certain deeds relating to exchanges of lands, awards, &c.; also some of the great instruments confirming the possessions of the church to the capitular body, including—

The exemplification of privileges of Henry IV. Nov. 14 anno 2° [1400.]

The charter of dotation of the D. & C. by Henry VIII. 24 Jan. 33 Hen. VIII. [1541–2.]

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* MS. *v't'*. † Much rubbed. ‡ *Sic.* § *Sic.*

Deed of exchange of certain manors. 4 Mar., 1 Edw. VI. [1546–7]. *Great seal* in good preservation. *Signed* by the King, with signatures of E. Somerset, T. Cantuarien, W. Seint Johñ, J. Russell, J. Warwyk, Wiłłm Paget, A. Denny, W. Herbert.

Letters patent uniting the sees of Worcester and Gloucester, 8 Dec., 6 Edw. VI. [1552.] *Great seal* in fine preservation.

Exhibited in the Chapter House are the following documents, some of which appear to have been removed from the chapter muniments, and others to belong to the bishop :—

1. Charter of Uhtred of the Huuiccas of land near the river Salwarpe, A.D. 770. Of this there is a photo-zincograph in "Facsimiles of Anc. MSS." vol. II. It is printed in Hickes' "Thesaurus," i. 170, and in Dugdale (ed. 1817), doc. ix.
2. Charter of bp. Wulfstan granting to the monastery 15 hides at Alveston. [1089.]

   Witnesses : Thomas, prior, and the monks.
   Agelric, archdeacon.
   Coleman, monk and chancellor.
   Fritheric, chaplain, and the bp.'s clerks.
   Urso, sheriff and the knights of his shrievalty.
   Ordric, dapifer, and the bp.'s court.
   Alwin, bp.'s dapifer.
   Ordric, provost of the town.

   ✝ Ego Wulstanus. *With seal* (*broken*).
3. King John's Will.

   Printed by Thomas, app. 33, p. 19.
4. Grant by bp. of Coventry of Bromwich church to the monastery. [*c.* 1216.]
5. Grant by Thomas abbat of Evesham and his convent of pensions to the bp. charged on the livings of Hillingdon, Weston, and Kinwarton. [1249.] *Two seals.*
6. Confirmation of the same by Henry III. 1268. *Seal* (*fragm.*).
7. Composition between bp. Godfrey [Giffard] and Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, and Joan his wife touching a trench made by the latter on Malvern Hill, 19 Edw. I. *Seals.*
8. Confirmation of the same by Edw. I. (in triplicate).
9. Letter of Edward VI. to the bp. of Worcester settling his style as *bishop of Worcester and Gloucester.* 27 Sept. a° 6. 1552. With the King's *signature.*
10. Letter of Elizabeth to D. & C. desiring a lease for Sir Wm. Lane of lands in St. John's and Diglis near Worcester. 17 July 1602. *Signed* by the Queen and J. Windebank.
11. Order from Charles I. to Nathaniel Tomkins, treasurer of the church of Worcester, to pay to captain Francis Blunte the sum of £200 "or thereabouts of churche rente due unto us." *Signed* by the King, and by Edw. Nicholas. *Oxford :* 2 December 1643.
12. Letters of Charles I. to John Prideaux, vice-chancellor of the university of Oxford, and, from Dec. 1641, bishop of Worcester.

    i. [*Docketed III*ª.] Warrant for the publication and dispersion in the university of "all the printed bookes sent herewith conteyning all peticions and messages from our parliament concerning the militia of the kingdome and our severall and respective answers to the same."

    Royston : 5 March 1641-2. *Signed.*

ii. [*III.*] Warrant for the publication in like manner of "all the printed copies herewith sent conteyning our gracious message of the 15th of March lately delivered in our high court of Westminster upon our removall to our citty of Yorke."

York: 19 March 1641–2. *Signed.*

iii. [*V.*] Warrant for the publication in like manner of "all the printed bookes herewith sent conteyning our gracious declaracion to both houses of parliament in answere to that of theirs presented to us at Newmarket the 9th of this present."

York: 26 March 1642. *Signed.*

iv. [*VI.*] Warrant for the publication in like manner of "all the printed bookes herewith sent conteyning the peticion of both houses of parliament presented to us at our citty of Yorke the 26th of March by the Lord Willoughby and others with our answere thereunto."

York: 2 April 1642. *Signed.*

v. [*VII.*] Warrant for the publication in like manner of "all the printed copies herewith sent conteyning a peticion to us from both houses of parliament for leave to remove the magazin at Hull to our Tower of London and for taking off our reprieve of six condemned preists in Newgate with our answere thereunto."

York: 16 April 1642. *Signed.*

vi. [*VIII.*] Warrant for the publication in like manner of "all the printed copies herewith sent conteyning our gracious message to our parliament of the 8th of this month concerning our resolution to goe into Ireland."

York: 16 April 1842. *Signed.*

vii. [*XVII.*] Order to resign his patent of appointment to the professorship of divinity at Oxford (on promotion to the see of Worcester) to his successor "Doctor Sanderson (one of our chaplaines in ordinary)"; "the duties and proffits of which wee are nevertheless willing you should performe and receave till the 21th of July next [at] the lodgings in Christchurch, the grasse of the meadowes belonging to the said canonry, with the entire proffits of the said rectory of Ewelme since Easter last onely excepted, which we are pleased to graunt unto the said Doctour Sanderson."

York: 29 April 1642. *Signed.*

viii. [*X.*] Warrant to "receave and forthwith publish disperse and cause to bee read in the severall parts and places in that our university all the printed bookes and papers herewith sent conteyning our first and second messages to our parliament concerning S^r^ John Hothams refusall to give us entrance into our towne of Hull. And likewise the message of the 28th of Aprill last declaring our reasons for not passing the bill concerning the militia."

York: 7 May 1642. *Signed.*

ix. [*XI.*] Similar warrant relative to "all the printed bookes herewith sent conteyning our parliaments answere concerning S^r^ John Hothams refusall to give us entrance into our towne of Hull with our reply thereunto."

York: 14 May 1642. *Signed.*

x. [*XII.*] Warrant to "receave and forthwith (by the assistance of the ministers and other officers) publish disperse and cause to bee read in the parish churches colledges and other publique places in that our university of Oxford all the printed

bookes herewith sent conteyning our answere by way of declaracion to a printed paper concerning the militia. And of your performance of these our commands we require you to give an accompt to one of our principall secretaries of state."

York: 21 May 1642. *Signed.*

xi. [*XIII.*] Warrant for the publication of "all the printed bookes herewith sent conteyning a peticion presented to us from our parliament the 23th of this instant (with three votes of both houses) concerning the disbanding of our guard, and our answere thereunto. And of your performance," &c.

York: 28 May 1642. *Signed.*

xii. [*XIIII.*] Warrant to "cause and require the printer of our university of Oxford forthwith to print publish and disperse our booke herewith sent conteyning our answere to a printed booke intituled A Remonstrance of the Declaracion of the Lords and Commons now assembled in parliament 26° Maii 1642 in answere to a Declaracion under his Mats name concerning the business of Hull: And our further will and pleasure is that the said booke be read and published in the severall colledges, halls, churches, schooles, and other publique places of that our university."

York: 14 June 1642. *Signed.*

xiii. [*XV.*] Warrant for the speedy printing of "all such our messages Declaracions Propositions Answers and Replies &c. as shall hereafter come from us and bee sent to you by either of our Secretaries of State," and "particularly our late answere to a booke intituled The Declaration or Remonstrance of the Lords and Commons of the 19th of May, the copy wherof ye shall herewith receave."

York: 19 June 1642. *Signed.*

xiv. [*XVI.*] Letter thanking Prideaux for his "prudent and discreet carriage concerning the order you receaved from our house of commons," and ordering him to have printed and read "all such declaracions of both our houses of parliament as are by them set forth and answered by us, soe as at the same time you cause to be read with it our answere to the same, that soe our good people may not bee misledd by hearing onely of one side, which some factious spirits endeavour who seek to set devision between us and our good subjects."

York: 1 July 1642. *Signed.*

xv. [*XVIII.*] "Reverend Father in God, right trusty and well-beloved, we greete you well. Whereas upon a false and scandalous pretence, (and which wee have sufficiently made appeare to be such by our actions and declarations, and by the Declaration of our lords and counsellours heere present with us) that wee intended to make warre upon our parliament, horse is still leavied, and plate and money is still brought in against us, notwithstanding our declarations and proclamation to the contrary, which hath forced us out of a due regard to our safety and dignity, and to the peace of the kingdome, to desire the assistance of our good subjects for our necessary defence. And whereas our university of Oxford is not only involved in the consequences of such dangerous and illegal proceedings equally with the rest of our subjects, but by our perpetuall care and protection of such nurseries of learning, we have especiall reason to expect their particular care of us,

and their extraordinary assistance to our defence and preservation": asks that sums of money collected at Oxford may be paid to Dr. Richard Chaworth.

York: 7 July 1642. *Signed.*

xvi. [*XIX.*] Warrant to the sheriff and other officers of the county and city of Worcester,—"whereas the . . . Lord Byshop of Worcester hath bin menaced to be sent for in a disgracefull maner to the parliament, as if indeed he were a notorious malefactor and delinquent, whereas we have most evident testimony of his peaceable, loyall and prudent cariadge,"—requiring them to be "ayding and assisting unto the said Lo. Byshop of Worcester and by no meanes to permitt or suffer him to be forcibly or otherwise taken out of the Sea or County by any power, authority, order, or ordinance whatsoever, not warranted by us."

York: 16 August 1642. *Signed.*

xvii. [*XX.*] Letter asking a loan from the clergy of the diocese to be "duely and speedily repayed with the Intereste of 8li per cent. as soone as these distractions shalbe somewhat appeased."

Nottingham: 28 August 1642. *Signed.*

xviii. [*XXI.*] Letter desiring the bishop to take all possible steps for the promotion of ecclesiastical order and discipline and for the prevention of the "increase of Brownists, Anabaptists, and other sectaries and persons mistaken and misperswaded in their religion."

Oxford: 22 December 1642. *Signed.*

xix. [*XXII.*] Letter in support of Nathanael Marston, clerk, for St. Nicholas' or St. Helen's, Worcester, the present parsons whereof "have long continued to be very schismaticall and seditious preachers, and . . . are now actually joyned to the rebells."

Oxford: 21 January 1642–3. *Signed.*

xx. [*XXIII.*] Letter of thanks to the clergy of the diocese for "their readiness to contribute a good summ of money towards the raysing of a troope of horse under the command of S^r^ James Hamilton."

Oxford: 12 February 1642–3. *Signed.*

xxi. [*XXIIII.*] Order for the institution of proceedings against "Humfrey Hardwick, clerk, rector of St. Mary Witton," a seditious person now joined to the rebellious army.

Oxford: 24 February 1642–3. *Signed.*

xxii.–xxv. [*XXV.–XXVIII.*] Letters requiring the appointment of certain clergymen to benefices lately held by seditious persons of the sequestration of them for the use of the king's adherents.

Oxford: 10 April–20 October 1643.

One of these letters is in favour of a Scottish clergyman, "Andrew Collaie, parson of Dundee and preacher of Edinburgh."

I desire, in conclusion, to express my acknowledgments to the Very Rev. the Dean and the Rev. the Chapter for their permission freely accorded to make a full inspection of their muniments, and I take pleasure in adding my hearty thanks to Mr. J. H. Hooper, M.A., chapter clerk, for his great kindness and personal assistance offered to me during my four visits to Worcester for the purposes of this report.

Reginald L. Poole.

THE MUNIMENTS OF THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER PRESERVED IN HIS REGISTRY AT WORCESTER.

Chief among the muniments of the bishop are the Episcopal Registers, which form a noble series extending from the pontificate of Godfrey Giffard, 1268, to the present day. To write even a cursory description of their contents would require at least a volume, and I must limit myself to giving a bare statement of their compass, and to noticing their occasional irregularities.

The Registers are numbered continuously, the last completed volume, xlv., ending in December 1883; but vol. xi. is in two parts, so that the total number at present is forty-six. Volumes i.—xxxiii. were bound in vellum by direction of Mr. registrar Hurd and under the supervision of Mr. Henry Clifton about seventy years ago. The remainder are in rough calf.

There is some confusion in the registers of bishops Montacute, Bryan, and Wakefield, portions of the first and third being inserted in the register of bishop Bryan, part ii. The register of bishop Giuglio dei Medici (pope Clement VII.) mentioned by Nash does not exist; but in its place (vol. xxvii.) I find a series of carefully mounted leaves and fragments of the registers of 1516, 1523, 1527–1536, and 1542. A calendar and indices made by Dr. Prattinton in 1825, are prefixed. Vol. xxix. contains the two registers of bishop Latimer; vol. xxx. that of bishop John Bell. The next volume bears the following various headings on the leaf which once formed the cover:—

31

Nichi Heath 1544*

33. Regirm Dñi Richardi Pates 1556
Hugonis whoper† Latimer Johnnis whooper
Et Regim dni Edwini Sandes Anno 1560
et folii huius libri 13‡

Vol. xxxiii. ends the register of bishop Prideaux in 1646; vol. xxxiv. begins that of bishop Morley in 1660.

The volumes have rough indices, which are also copied out into two separate volumes. Besides these there is a combined index to the whole series of registers down to and including vol. xxxiii., in other words to all the registers in vellum. This was made in the seventeenth century and is classified under the names of places.

The registers are kept in a cupboard in the Registrar's room, the shelves of which are too near together for most of the volumes to stand upright. They thus suffer an unnecessary amount of wear and tear when required for use; some resting on their fore-edges and some lying flat; and the clasps with which they are furnished are an additional cause of injury. Their position also from the point of view of security from fire leaves much to be desired.

The Acts of the Consistory Court and Books of Depositions kept in a press in the clerks' room in the Registry are modern. There is a rough hand-list of their contents made by the late J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps in 1881. The only other volumes specifically distinguished as the bishop's are preserved in the Will Room adjoining the Registry. They are all modern, and

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* Deleted.

† These two words are by the same hand; the second is obliterated, then "Latimer" added, finally all three struck out.

‡ Now f. 33, where the former "3" has been corrected from "1."

present few features of interest. Among them may be mentioned the manuscript "Notitia Dioec. Wigorn." written by chancellor Price early in the last century. It comprises, digested under headings, a mass of information relating to the history of the diocese, which Price had collected from a laborious study of the muniments. On f. 120. 2° are "Collecta e Lib. nuper in custodia Dan. Hughes," which contains much of interest especially for the history of the reformation in the city of Worcester.

Of single documents the wills are the most numerous. There is also a certain number of bonds entered into before marriage. One of these, framed between plates of glass and preserved by itself with the bishop's registers, is the bond entered into by Fulk Sandells and John Rychardson for the marriage license of William Shagspere and Anne Hathwey of Stratford, 28 Nov. 25 Eliz. It is printed in J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps' "Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare" (5th ed., 1885), pp. 453 f.

At least one other volume and a good many documents belonging of right to the episcopal muniments have been already noticed among those of the chapter.

I conclude by expressing my thanks to the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Worcester for his readiness in according permission to examine his archives and to Mr. J. H. Hooper, M.A., his Lordship's Registrar, for doing everything in his power to facilitate my inspection.

Reginald L. Poole.

THE MUNIMENTS OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF LICHFIELD.

The muniments of the cathedral church of SS. Mary and Chad, Lichfield, are preserved in the Chapter Registry, in the chamber (once the Chapel of St. Chad's Head) above the Consistory Court on the south side of the choir of the church. With them are preserved also the muniments of the Vicars of the church, who form a corporation. The arrangements for the safe keeping of the collections are excellent. The Registry is approached by two locked doors, of which the only keys are kept by the Chapter Clerk. The volumes are stored in a tin box; the documents are in presses and drawers. Many of the more interesting documents are exhibited in five locked glass cases in the Library over the Chapter House, and remain for the time under the charge of the Librarian, the Rev. Canon Lonsdale. Every document bears a distinct number, and there is no difficulty in finding any of them.

The whole collection has had the great advantage of being arranged and numbered in an orderly system by the Rev. J. Charles Cox, LL.D., to whose work, the "Catalogue of the Muniments and Manuscript Books pertaining to the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield; Analysis of the Magnum Registrum Album; Catalogue of the Muniments of the Lichfield Vicars: compiled 1881–1886," the present report may serve as a supplement. Indeed, for local and antiquarian purposes that Catalogue may be considered to meet all necessary demands, though it would have been a good thing had the names of witnesses been uniformly given at length in the case of all documents before the end of the thirteenth century. I am however bound to point out that errors of transcription are extremely frequent in it.* It must also be ex-

* Thus in the description of charter B. 1 out of seven names of witnesses Dr. Cox makes mistakes in five, writing *Gerard, Hewere, Robert, Lamartin,* and *de Beulaco,* for *Erard, Newere, Osbert, Damartin,* and *de Beuerlaco* (*Beverley*).

pressly stated that Dr. Cox's work suffers from an imperfect acquaintance with ecclesiastical, historical, and legal terms. Documents too are sometimes assigned precisely to a given year where the evidence does not authorise us in approaching more closely than within a range of several years. Other documents are completely misdescribed: a Missal is called a "Commentary on the New Testament" (p. 107), and "pontifical," that is episcopal, letters are almost always stated to proceed from popes.* Nor did Dr. Cox succeed in identifying among the contents of the Registrum Album the new and unknown texts of the Burton and of the Chester Annals, earlier than any previously discovered, which formed the great surprise of my first day's work in the Registry. If then I am bound to place restrictions upon the confidence with which his Catalogue may be used, I wish to express without qualification my sense of its service as a systematic guide to the Lichfield muniments, which renders access to them sure and easy, and which, I gratefully add, has made my task of examination a light one. Thanks to it I have been able to restrict myself to those documents which are of an early date, or which in some way or another may be considered of more than merely local interest. The history of a great secular foundation such as is that of Lichfield is one that deserves working out in detail; but I have held myself bound to limit my studies to those materials among its muniments which throw light upon ill-understood or disputed questions, or which bring out distinguishing and characteristic features in the growth of this particular church.

THE MAGNUM REGISTRUM ALBUM.

Foremost among the books in the Lichfield Registry is the Registrum Album, a quarto volume, of which the greater part may be assigned to the reign of King Edward II. At the beginning and end of the volume are eight leaves of a Missal written in the latter part of the twelfth century and containing portions of the services for the Epiphany and others. These are followed by twelve leaves written towards the end of the thirteenth century and bearing a distinct numeration from the rest of the volume. They present a new and unknown recension of the Chester Annals, which have been published by Mr. Chancellor Christie for the Lancashire and Cheshire Record Society under the title of "Annales Cestrienses."† Of this work two copies only have hitherto been known. That in the possession of Lord Mostyn was written in various handwritings assigned to "the end of the fifteenth or early part of the sixteenth century,"‡ and extends from the birth of Christ to the year 1297. The other manuscript, which was made for bishop Gastrell early in the eighteenth century, and is preserved in the Diocesan Registry at Chester, contains only extracts, and runs from 594 to 1295. Mr. Christie has made the Mostyn MS. the text of his edition, and has printed the Gastrell MS. in an appendix. The copy hitherto unnoticed in our Lichfield Register is of still shorter compass, and extends only from 1226 to 1259, but it has the advantages of being almost contemporary with the last events recorded as well as of including some notices which are absent from the other manuscripts. I have made a full collation of it with Mr.

* The reader will note that the following account has been throughout written with Dr. Cox's catalogue at my side; so that, wherever the names, dates, and descriptions of documents differ from Dr. Cox's, the difference is intentional.

† Annales Cestrienses; or, Chronicle of the Abbey of S. Werburg at Chester Edited with an introduction, translation, and notes, by Richard Copley Christie. Printed for the Record Society, 1887.

‡ Christie, introd., p. vii.

Christie's text, from which I here extract such variants as are either of substantial value or may serve to elucidate the relation of the three manuscripts.*

Mostyn MS.	Lichfield MS.	Gastrell MS.
1226. Marmiun.	Marmyun. Item obiit Lodowycus Rex Francorum.	Marmiun.
1228. Duganum.	Dunganne w.	*om.*
om.	*om.*	Obiit Willielmus Abbas Cestriae.
Kenes.	Kery.	*om.*
1229. Vernum.	Vernun.	Vernun.
1230. remanserunt ad festum.	remanserunt. Item circa festum.	*om.*
paucis.	paucis. Item Gregorius nonus papa cepit per Angliam decimacionem omnium ecclesiarum tam de nigris monachis quam de canonicis et clericis beneficiatis.	„
mulier carcerata custodia diu.	mulier ipsa diu carcerali custodia detinetur.	„
1231. Boverum.	Bouerun.	„
1232. Hawerthin.	Hawurthin.	Hawerthin.
1233. Phiton.	phitun.	Phiton.
Item guerra.	Item orta est guerra.	*om.*
1234. Maedestan.	Maydeston.	„
episcopus Hierford unde prius decanus . . . pridie non.	episcopus Herford̃ unde prius decanus fuit pridie nonas.	„
1237. Darnal vij idus Junii.	Darnale vij kal. Iulii.	Darnal vii Idus Iunii.
Cestresyria.	Cestres'.	Cestriaesiria.
custos Ricardus de.	custos et Ricardus de.	Custos. Ricardus etiam de.
1238. episcopus Cestrie.	episcopus Lich̃.†	Epus̃ Cestriae.
om.	*om.*	[apud Andover.]
Item clerici Oxonie insultum fecerunt Otoni legato apud Osneye.	„	*om.*
1240. benedixit [*space of* 2½ *lines*] Roger Frend.	benedixit Rogerum Frend.	benedixit Rogerum Frend.
1241. obitum suum.	obitum suum. Item Eclipsis in die Sancte Fidis circa horam nonam apparuit.	*om.*
Item obiit Stephanus de Sagreve.	*om.*	„
fecit et fundare.	Item fecit firmare.	„
1244. Natus est Edmund filius Henrici regis.	*om.*	„
Item roboria facta est a clericis.	„	„
1245. Moalt.	Moald.	„
captum v. kal. Aprilis.	et captum est v. kal. Aprilis. Item Magister Rogerus de Woseham Decanus Lincolnie Consecratus est episcopus Cestr'.‡	„
comes Habemar...comes Withford.	comes de Alba Mara H. comes. Wicheford.	„
Gannoc.	Gannoto.	„
Bicoth.	Bigot.	„
alii unacum Rege.	alii nuncii regis.	„
Redeuntes postea Mauricius.	Rediens postea Mauricius.	„
equos plurimos.	equos summarios.	„
est primi.	est ea primi.	„
Item facta fuit nova moneta.	*om.*	„

* Throughout this report I use dots to indicate blanks in the MS., and asterisks to mark my own omissions.

† *Lich̃* written over an erasure.

‡ *Cestr'* has been struck through by the second corrector of the MS. (14th century), who has supplied "Lich̃ apud Lugd. per papam Innocentium iiii," with a reference to the page of the Burton Annals in the same MS.

Mostyn MS.	Lichfield MS.	Gastrell MS.
1246. Sepultus apud Abercon.	aput Aberconew et sepultus est.	*om.*
equo ultimi morbo perierunt.	equo capite percussus est corruitque et exspiravit. Duo ultimi in morbo perierunt.	,,
Ideneveth.	Idenewet.	,,
1247. apud Helelwele. Item in Cestrisiria eodem die.	apud Heselwelle in Cestresir'. Item eodem die.	,,
fuerunt.	fuerunt infecte; istut viderunt multi in Cestresir'. Item eodem anno cito post predictum mirum obiit Landegrave Romanorum imperator. Item caristies magna illo anno, ita ut summa bladi fere pro duodecim solidis venderetur. Item obiit Robertus Barun* ordinis fratrum predicatorum. Item obiit Willelmus de Abindon egregius predicator.	fuerunt infectae; id viderunt multi in Cestriaesiria.
1248. terram sanctam.	terram sanctam. Item eodem anno obiit frater Ricardus de Fisbage.	*om.*
1249. v mille.	quinque ville.	,,
1250. festum clausum.	post clausum.	,,
Sodano.	a Soldano.	,,
in illo bello tanta strages quanta nunequam temporibus nostris accidit, in eodem bello interfectus Willelmus fuit longapie qui multas probitates fecit cum . . . suis et senescallo templi unus autem illorum solus ut di[citur]. . .	bello illo strages ineffabilis numquam temporibus nostris maior. Item eodem anno interfectus fuit Robertus comes frater regis Francie. Secundum autem quosdam profugiendo cum Francigenis se ipsum quadam unda submersit. Et tunc interfectus fuit Willelmus Longespeye in bello, qui multas cum hominibus suis fecit probitates et cum senescallo templi et cum multis militibus templi; unus autem illorum solus, ut dicebatur, evasit.	,,
1251. numero scilicet l milia.	numero CL milia.	,,
1253. in Wasconia.	in Wasconiam.	,,
1254. de Pecho et.	Peche.	de Peche.
in Wasconia.	in Gasconiam.	*om.*
de Castell et Legn.	de Castell in Hysan.†	,,
et [misit].	*om.*	,,
Anglie.	Anglie dimisit.	,,
reformandum.	reformandam.	,,
in Wasconia.	in Gasconiam.	,,
1255. pacem reformatam.	pace reformata.	,,
decimas parum H. rex Angli‡ pluribus concedendo.	decimas ipsarum ecclesiarum domino H. regi Angl̃ plurimis annis concedendo.§	,,
1256. in Wallia.	in Walliam.	in Wallia.
Englfeld.	Engelfeld.	*om.*
terras illas subdens domino.	terras illas suo subdens dominio.	,,
Rogerus de Weseham.	R. de Woseham.	Rogerus de Woseham.
percussus.	*om.*	percussus.
circa festum [*followed by a blank*].	circa festum S. Michaelis sponte cessit racionabili et sufficienti accepta provisione. Cui successit dominus Rogerus de Mewling' a conventu Conventr' et canonicis Lich̃, canonice et sine contradiccione apud Conventr' [electus die Martis ante purif. ii. kal. Febr.‖] Item obiit¶ magister Rogerus de Woseham prius episcopus Conventr'.	Circa festum S. Michaelis sponte cessit rationabili et adficienti accepta provisione. Cui successit Dompnus Rogerus de Meulinges a Conventu Coventriae et Canonicis Lichesfeldiae canonice . . . apud Coventriam. Item obiit Magister Rogerus de W̃ Woseham prius Epus Coventriae.

* Doubtless Robert Bacon.

† *Sic*, for *Hyspan.*

‡ The editor reconstructs *decimas ecclesiarum Henrico regi Anglie.*

§ The first corrector (of the 14th century) has dated this entry in the margin 1254.

‖ The words within brackets are supplied by the second corrector.

¶ The second corrector notes, 1257.

Mostyn MS.	Lichfield MS.	Gastrell MS.
1257. in vigilia.	1257.* et in vigilia.	*om.*
in die Pentecostes sequenter apud capelam de Ryse coronatus.	in die Pentecosten† sequenti apud‡ de Eyse§ coronatus.	,,
marchia Herfford et Salop.	marchiam Herford et Salopusbur'.	,,
Londonie.	Cant'.‖	Londini.
Meulinges.	Mewlinge.	Meulinges.
Waniton.	Wauton'.	*om.*
1258. Tempore illo Henricus rex Anglie quatuor semifratres suos [*followed by two columns blank*].	Tempore illo dominus H. rex Angl' quattuor semifratres suos Audomarum electum Wintonie, Willelmum de Walente, Galfridum et Gwy de Lesinan usque adeo ditavit quod ipsi nobiles Angl' despicientes mediocres conculcabant. Quod Simon de Monte forti et Ricardus de Clare, comites Leycestr' et Glovern' ceterique magnates Anglie indigne ferentes in festo sancte Trinitatis Oxoniam venerunt, coniurantesque adinvicem de statu regni in melius reformando xij. pares sibi elegerunt, qui statim dominum Hugonem Bigot summum iusticiarium tocius Anglie statuentes, omnesque ministros hospicii regis, custodes castrorum, et vicecomites comitatuum regi et regine iuratos de communi eorum consilio ordinantes, restituerunt domino regi omnes terras et castra a corona iniuste separata, et prefatos domini regis semifratres statutis eorum contradicentes circa festum sancti Kenelmi de regno violenter eiecerunt.	*om.*
om.	Item fames nimia in Anglia ita prevaluit quod circa gulam autumpni apud Northampton' summa frumenti pro xvi. s. et viii. d. vendebatur, pauperibus pluribus per plateas civitatum iacentibus fame interemptis.¶	*om.*
,,	Item eodem anno circa festum beati Barnabe apostoli obiit Eadmundus de Lascy comes Lincoln'.	*om.*
	Item eodem tempore Rogerus de Monte alto tunc iusticiarius Cestr' graviter infestans dominum T. abbatem et conventum Cestr' pro confirmacione sua super maneriis de Lauton et Gorstre et advocacione ecclesiarum de Neston, Bruer', et Codinton, tandem manerium de Brotton' ab eis extorsit. Obiitque Iohannes dicti Rogeri primogenitus infra quindenam illam. Pluraque incomoda valde notabilia eidem Rogero non multo post acciderunt.	Rogerus de Monte Alto tunc iusticiarius Cestriae graviter infestans dnum Thomam Abbatem et Conventum S. Werburgae de Cestria pro confirmacione sua super maneriis de Lauton et Gostre et advocacione ecclesiarum de Neston, Bri . . ., et Codington, manerium de Brotton' ab eis extorsit. Obiitq. dicti Rogeri primogenitus infra quinde'am illam. Pluraq: incommoda valde notabilia eidem Rogero non multo post acciderunt. Qui Rogerus infra biennium egenus obiit, ignorante tunc vulgo certam eius sepulturam.
1259. Willelmus de Doncestria prior sancte Werburgae Cestrie cui successit	Willelmus de Rowcestre prior sancte Werburge Cestr'.	Willielmus de Doncestria prior S. Werburgae Cestriae.
Henry de Wenham. lincenciavit.	Henricus de Wingeham. licenciavit.	*om.* licenciavit.

* The second corrector notes, 1256.
† Changed by the second corrector into *Ascensionis*.
‡ *Capellam* is probably omitted by inadvertence at the turn of the page, the next beginning, in a larger and somewhat later handwriting, with *De Eyse*.
§ *Apud de Eyse* struck through and *Aquis grani* substituted by the second corrector.
‖ Written over an erasure.
¶ To this notice the second corrector adds, *Set anno M.CCC.XVII fuit fames inaudita, quia in festo asumpcionis vendebatur quaternum frumenti pro xviiii sol., et in anno sequenti eodem tempore anni pro xl. d.*

In the following sentence, with the words *pro dicta licencia*, the Lichfield MS. ends.

As for the relation subsisting between these manuscripts, it is in the first place to be noticed that there existed in the Cottonian library a volume marked Otho B. iii., which was destroyed in the fire of 1731, and contained a work sometimes cited as "Annales Cestr." or "Chron. Cestrens." This extended from the birth of Christ to 1255, but is shown from the two leaves which remain (though these are for the most part undecipherable) to have been "a chronicle or continuous narrative, and not mere annals."* It was not therefore strictly the original of our three manuscripts, but it is possible that these were abridged from it. On the other hand, the Cottonian MS. is stated to have stopped short at 1255, while the Lichfield text runs on to 1259, the Gastrell to 1295, and the Mostyn to 1297. Mr. Christie considers it probable that the Cottonian chronicle "was the original (or a copy of an earlier original) compiled and preserved in the abbey of Chester, from which many of the entries in the Mostyn and Gastrell MSS. relating to events before 1255 were copied, and that the subsequent entries, and probably the whole of the MS. of which the Mostyn MS. is a copy, were made and compiled under the direction of Simon of Whitchurch and completed after his death."† Abbat Whitchurch was elected in 1265 and died in 1290. The Lichfield MS. was, therefore, it may be inferred, transcribed from the Chester Annals at the time when they were in process of compilation.

For the period through which it extends it includes all the notices of the Mostyn MS., with three exceptions (under 1238, 1241, and 1244), and in several places supplies considerable lacunæ in it, besides correcting the grammar and the spelling of proper names. It should be remarked that in two cases where these lacunæ occur there is a space left blank in the Mostyn MS. There seems no reason for doubting that the Lichfield and Mostyn MSS. are both transcripts of the same original; only the one is by an early and competent, while the other is by a late and ignorant, scribe. The Gastrell MS. is disfigured by interpolations which cannot be earlier than the fourteenth century, but it too is no transcript of either of the other copies, but is a series of extracts taken, either directly or more likely through an intermediate (interpolated) copy, from the same original. At the same time the possibility always remains—though I consider it less probable—that the two older manuscripts on the one side, and the Gastrell MS. on the other, represent respectively a longer and a shorter body of extracts from the destroyed Chester Chronicle in a copy which was continued down to 1259 at the time the Lichfield transcript was made, and to 1297 when the Mostyn MS. was written.‡ It will be noticed that in the Lichfield MS. an attempt has been made to accommodate the title of the bishop to the Lichfield tradition. The Annals speak always of the bishop of Chester or of Coventry; but under 1245, when the Mostyn MS. makes Roger of Weseham consecrated bishop of Chester, a later corrector of the Lichfield MS. has substituted the

* Note by Mr. E. M. Thompson, cited by Mr. Christie, introd., p. xxv; of whose results the account in the text is a summary.

† Ibid., p. xxix.

‡ As for the chronology of the Annals, Mr. Christie is of opinion that the year is made to begin with 1 April (introd., p. xxx). But 30 March is included at the beginning of 1194, 26 March of 1234 and 1254, and 28 March of 1245. We may infer, therefore, that the annalist's practice was to begin the year with Lady Day. He is not, however, quite uniform, since in 1264 he includes 24 March at the beginning of the year, and in 1259 4 April at the end.

word Lichfield,* and under 1238 an erasure doubtless betrays a similar change.

Where these Annals end on f. 5*a*, the vacant space is occupied by a long index of the contents of the Register, some leaves of which are obliterated by galls. Then follow, ff. 11, 12, some documents added about 1400 and later.

After these twelve leaves there begins with a new foliation a copy of the Annals of Burton, written towards the end of the thirteenth century (ff. 1—77). The text is important because the editor of the work, the late Dr. Luard, was ignorant of the existence of any other copy than that found in the Cottonian MS., Vespas. E. iii., from which he printed it in the Annales Monastici, vol. i. (1864), and which belongs, excepting "the first few leaves," to the fourteenth century.† The Lichfield MS. ends with the words 'Obiit Iohannes filius Galfridi'‡ in the year 1258, thus omitting the last four years of the Annals as they stand in the Cottonian MS.§ The deficiency is not due to the destruction of the concluding portion of the transcript or to the loss of any leaves. The last sentence ends on the seventh line of the second column of f. 77, and is written in a style which gives the impression that the writer meant to proceed further.

The fact that the substantive part of these Annals ends in 1258, as the preceding copy of the Chester Annals does a year later, seems to show that about that date the ambition of the secular chapter of Lichfield was roused to emulate the example of so many of the regular churches by drawing up a body of annals which, while recording the great events of English history, should devote special attention to the affairs of the church and diocese. For this purpose it may be presumed copies were ordered to be made of the annals kept at the neighbouring religious houses of Burton and Chester, and these copies, made within not many years of the last records contained in them, were placed at the head of a newly opened register of the church of Lichfield. That the intention of continuing them was not seriously carried out is but one more illustration of the characteristic habits of the clergy in a secular chapter. They had not, like monks, their daily apportioned tasks, whether in writing or in manual labour, and the projected Lichfield Annals were never made.

The relation of the Lichfield MS. to the Cottonian as printed by Luard is not hard to indicate in general terms. That the latter is not derived from the former is proved by its greater compass as well as by certain varieties of reading. I take it that they both were transmitted from the same original at Burton, but that the Lichfield MS. was copied before the original had been continued beyond 1258. If this be so, we are able to carry back the date of the composition of the Annals a stage earlier than was previously ascertained. It is evident that the Lichfield copy was made for use elsewhere than at Burton Abbey, since for example under 1087 the words "Hic dedit nobis, videlicet monasterio

* In connexion with this question of names I may call attention to the title "Annales Cestrienses" in the Mostyn MS. as indicative of a late date. All the notices of the destroyed Cottonian MS. call its contents "Chronicon Cestrense," and Wharton uniformly speaks of the "Annales Cestrenses." In our MS. we find "Cestr." regularly abbreviated, and the county called "Cestresir'."

† Ann. monast., i. pref. p. xxvii.

‡ P. 461, ed. Luard.

§ Pp. 461—500.

"Burtoniensi *" appear in our text as "Hic dedit monasterio Burton'"; and this fact supports the hypothesis I have suggested above that the book was written definitely for the church of Lichfield. A later hand has here and there added a few words† or an entire sentence.‡

In the space left vacant where the Annals end a hand of the latter part of the fourteenth century has supplied the headings of years from 1259 to 1312, but the entries under these years are few and unimportant. They are written in several hands, and in different ink, and are as follow :—

1264. Bellum apud Lewes.
1265. Bellum apud Euesham.
1272. Obiit Henr. rex quartus.
1274. Cor. Edward in f. sancti Māgni.
1280. Mr. Radulfus de Semprinham decanus Lich. x. kal. April.§
1291. Electus est Walterus de Lang' in episcopum Lich. et in cap. Eccl.‖
1295. El. Walterus de Langetoun in epm̃. Lich.
1305. Ob. rex Edwardus filius Henrici apud Burgum super sabt. die translacionis sancti Thome.

On the next leaf, f. 78, begins a series of narratives of interest for the history of Mercia, and in particular for that of the church and see of Lichfield. These narratives, which are written in a hand of the fourteenth century, are all abridged, with unimportant modifications from William of Malmesbury's Gesta Regum, i. 74—95.

The abridgment has been made from an inferior text: thus we have *Egritum* for William's *Egricum*, and *Mecelnnum* for *Mercelinum* (§ 74), *Ehgelbrithum* for *Egelbrihtum* (§ 86), *Lambrichium* for *Iambrihtum* (§ 87). The narrative ends with the murder of St. Kenelm, "Nomen et decus martirii adeptus ibidem est sepultus,"¶ to which is subjoined "De quo dicitur,

In Clen sub spina iacet in convalle** bovina
Rege puer natus Kenelmus decapitatus."†† (f. 81 *a* col. 1.)

The margin contains a number of glosses, of nearly the same date as the text, some of which deserve quotation. I prefix to each the passage to which it belongs and the reference to the corresponding section in William of Malmesbury within brackets.

[Et tandem anno xxx^mo, ab Oswio fratre Oswaldi interfectus,‡‡ infernalium animarum numerum auxit. § 74.]

Interfectus in Deuiseb'na iuxta riuum de Uisi.

Auxit, quia paganus ut in legenda sancti Oswaldi.

[Oswius regnum suscepit. § 75.]

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* P. 185, ed. Luard. The sentence continues, 'Ufram maiorem et minorem, tempore suo, cum tota terra de ultra Dova et Eccleshall'; where the Lichfield MS. has in place of the last word *ecclesiis*.

† Thus under 1084 the exact date of bishop Gerard's death "ii Idus Ian." is supplied.

‡ For instance, after the account of the martyrdom of St. Alphege (p. 184, ed. Luard) it is added . "Sibertus duxit coream per annum cum sociis in Saxonia."

§ Cf. Wharton, Angl. Sacr. i. 465.

‖ Entered under the wrong year.

¶ W. Malmesb. Gest. Reg. i. 95 (vol. i. 95, ed. Stubbs, 1887).

** Written over an erasure.

†† A form of the well-known verses which differs from those collected by the Rev. D. Royce, Landboc sive Registrum Monast. de Winchelcumba, i. (1892) introd. p. vii, note.

‡‡ *Sc.* Penda.

Oswius: sub quo beatus Cedda, abbas sancte Marie in Listingay, a Wyne Lundoñ episcopo in archiepiscopatum Ebor' est consecratus. [Episcopatum Lundonie cuidam Wyne vendidit. § 76.]

Wyne: qui prefuit anno vi°lxvii, Theodoro tunc archiepiscopo Cant', qui Ceddam administracioni Eboracensis ecclesie fecit presidente Wilfrido, ut in legenda sancti Cedde.

[Wlfero post xix annos defuncto. § 77.]

Defuncto. Eius tempore sanctus Ceadda fuit episcopus Licħ anno gracie vi°lxxv'°, ut in eiusdem legenda patet.
[Ethelredus * * * apud Bardeneyam in monachum tonsus mox in abbatem est alteratus. § 77.]

Hic eciam Burc sancti Petri construxit. Unde versus:
Tres fratres fuimus fundantes Burc. Ego primus
rex ego dum vixi Burc post Peada bene rexi.
Hii Burc fecerunt. Confirmo quod ambo dederunt.
Hoc dictum est de Ethelredo fratre Wlfridi.
In quingenteno simul anno ter duodeno,
sub Peada rege valido fulgenteque lege est
hec fundata domus et Medehamsteyde dicta
tunc, nunc voce rata urbs Petri benedicta.*

De isto tamen Peada non inveni scriptum: unde credo quod erratum sit. Sit in nomine Peaď pro Weda.†

[Denebertus Wigorñ, Werenberthus Legecestr', Edulfus Sitnacestr', Wlford Herforď, Alheard Helmanensis, Ticlifrid Danuicensis. § 87.]

Legecestr' unitur Lincolñ.

Hodie est Norwič.‡

Danuicensis: hodie Lincolñ.

These historical articles are followed by a few documents which occupy the remainder of the leaf. First, in the same column, in a charter hand, also of the fourteenth century, is a writ of Edward III. for the release of a prisoner:—

f. 81*a*. The King to the sheriff of Warwick. 'Ex parte Roberti de Luggor', quem ad denunciacionem venerabilis patris Walteri archiepiscopi Cant', tanquam excommunicatum et claves ecclesie contempnentem, per corpus suum secundum consuetudinem Anglie per te iusticiari precepimus, donec sancte ecclesie tam de contemptu quam de iniuria ei illata ab eo fuerit satisfactum; nobis est ostensum quod, licet idem Robertus eidem archiepiscopo frequenter obtulerit ydoneam caucionem de parendo mandatis ecclesie in forma iuris, ut per hoc absolucionis beneficium consequi possit, idem tamen archiepiscopus caucionem illam ab eo hactenus admittere recusavit: de quo miramur. Et quia nolumus quod idem Robertus diucius in persona contra iusticiam detineatur, tibi precipimus quod in propria persona tua accedas ad prefatum episcopum, et ipsum ex parte nostra moneas et efficaciter inducas ut, accepta ab eodem Roberto caucione predicta, ipsum a prisona predicta mandet deliberari. Et si idem archiepiscopus id facere noluerit, tunc ipsum Robertum a prisona predicta, si ea occasione et non alia detineatur in eadem, deliberari facias.' *Nottingham:* 8 May, a. 1 [1327].

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* The verse in the manuscript is defective.
† This gloss is in different ink from the others.
‡ Referring to "Helmanensis."

Licence of Henry III.* to the dean and chapter (on the application of Mr. W., precentor of the church and of canon Hugh de Shoteby) for the election of a bishop, 3 May, a. 23 [1239].

f. 81*b*. Licence of the same (on the application of Mr. Ralph de la Coke and Mr. Alexander le Blund, canons of the church) for the same purpose, 14 June, a. 26 [1242].

Licence of Edward I. (on the application of Mr. Luke of Ely and Mr. Henry of Cornwall, canons) for the same purpose. 12 Jan. a. 24 [1295-6].

The next article, f. 81*b*, col. 2, is the first of a series of papal instruments which form a remarkable and characteristic feature of the Register. None of them, except those printed by Dugdale, are calendared in the Registrum of Jaffé (2nd ed.) or Potthast, unless the fact is stated.†

Letter of Boniface VIII., notifying the appointment of administrators of the see of Coventry and Lichfield during the suspension of bishop Walter Langton, 30 March 1302 (a very ignorant copy).

Bonefacius episcopus servus servorum Dei dilectis filiis Priori et Conventui Coventr' et . . . Decano et Capitulo Lich ecclesiarum Salutem et apostolicam benedictionem.

Inter cetera quibus comissa nobis a Domino universali cura Dominice gregis‡ astringimur, exitant nos ecclesiarum status quas inspicimus ex quovis casu vel causa fluctuare turbinibus vel eis deformacionis iminere dispendium, ut ipsis, ne detrimentum incurrant, de oportuno et solubri remedio per nostre cooperacionis ministerium succurratur. Dudum siquidem ad audienciam nostram gravi relacione perducto quod Gualterus Coventr' et Lich episcopus diversa et gravia scelera, que tamen ex causa duximus subticenda, commiserat ac eciam committebat, et quod super eis erat in illis partibus publice diffamatus: nos, volentes scire super illis plenius veritatem, episcopum peremptorie citari fecimus, ut infra certum terminum nostro se conspectui personaliter presentaret, recepturus pro meritis, ac alias facturus et recepturus quod iusticia suaderet, nostrisque pariturus beneplacitis et mandatis, vel suam, si posset, innocenciam ostensurus. Set quia prefatus episcopus, citacioni huiusmodi parere§ contempnens, in dicto termino [f. 82] et post illum per plures menses eciam expectatus non comparuit personaliter coram nobis, nos contra ipsum taliter contumacem pro huiusmodi contemptu et contumacia procedentes eum ab execucione pontificalium duximus autoritate apostolica suspendere. Eodem autem episcopo ad nostram postmodum presenciam accedente, cum de ipso nobis super diversis criminibus gravis delacio facta esset, nos super illis in curia nostra, quadam inquisicione‖ premissa, quam sibi non duximus publicandam, pensata negocii qualitate, prefatum episcopum ab administracione spiritualium et temporalium duximus per nostras sub certa forma litteras suspendendum, et nichilominus ad eliciendum super huiusmodi criminibus plenius veritatem per easdem precepimus litteras inquiri super eis in partibus Anglicanis. Ne igitur Coventr' et Lich ecclesie interim exposite neglectui videantur,

* I have not thought it necessary to enclose the numerals of kings and popes within square brackets, since it will be understood that in hardly any cases are they expressly given in the MS.

† Many of these documents, though not perhaps as many as might have been expected, are described by Mr. W. H. Bliss in his Calendar of Entries in the papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland, i.: 1198-1304 (1893).

‡ MS. *dominici regis*. § MS. *parare*. ‖ MS. *inquestione*.

neve careant oportune cure presidio, ac incurrere valeant in spiritualibus et temporalibus detrimentum, nos cupientes tales ad ipsarum custodiam deputare personas quarum bonitate ac studio preservari a noxiis, ad salubria dirigi, et prosperis possint (Deo propicio) successibus ampliari, dilectis filiis magistris Philippo de Evordoñ, Helie de Naptoñ, et Thome de Adberbur̃, canonicis Lich̃, de quorum providencia, discrecione, ac diligencia circumspecta plenam in Domino fiduciam optinemus, curam, administracionem, et procuracionem ipsarum Coventr' et Lich̃ ecclesiarum tam in spiritualibus quam in temporalibus apostolica autoritate commisimus libere in omnibus exercendas: ita quod in utriusque disponendi, precipiendi, et ordinandi, prout earundem ecclesiarum utilitati expedire viderent, et contradictores per censuram ecclesiasticam, appellacione postposita, compescendi habeant plenam et liberam facultatem, donec id per apostolicam sedem revocari contingat, vel de dictis ecclesiis aliter ordinari, alienacione verum ipsarum ecclesiarum eis penitus interdicta. Ceterum, ne interim prefatus episcopus in obprobrium pontificalis officii mendicare cogatur, pensatis facultatibus ecclesiarum predictarum ac persone ipsius episcopi condicionibus diligenter, de fructibus earundem ecclesiarum dicto episcopo sustentacionem non excessivam sed temperatam expensarum autoritate nostra ministrare procurent. Idioque universitatem vestram rogamus, monemus, et ortamur, attente per apostolica vobis scripta mandantes, quatinus administracionibus et procuracionibus ipsius super premissis sic umiliter et efficaciter intendatis quod possitis exinde merito commendari: alioquin sentenciam quam ipsi propter hoc rite tulerint in rebelles ratam habebimus, et faciemus auctoritate Domino usque ad satisfaccionem condignam appellacione remota inviolabiliter observari. Dat' Laterañ iii Kal̃. Apriľ. pontificatus nostri anno octavo.

f. 82*b*. Writ to the sheriff of Staffordshire to put under surety Robert de Prika parson of the church of Overton quatermars, to appear before the justices at Westminster in the octave of St. Michael, whereas the recognisances of debtors not relating to wills or matrimony pertain to the king, and "idem Robertus * * * magistrum Iohannem Clarel archidiaconum Stafford̃, occasione cuiusdam recognicionis quater viginti marc' eidem Roberto per prefatum Iohannem coram Decano de Arcubus Lond̃ (ut dicitur) facte, que quidem recognicio non est de testamento vel matrimonio, traxit in placitum in curia Christianitatis in lesionem corone et dignitatis nostre et contra prohibicionem nostram." *Tudheu* [Tudhoe, co. Northumberland]: 18 July a. 1. [Edw. III., 1327].

Writ to the sheriff of Staffordshire, "quoniam intelleximus quod quam plures de comitatu tuo per sacramenta et alio modo confederaciones, congregaciones, et conventicula illicita hominum ad arma et aliorum tam equitum quam peditum facientes in diversis locis in comitatu tuo tam infra libertates quam extra armata potencia incedunt, vagantur, et discurrunt, mala plurima indies perpetrando in nostri contemptu, pacis nostre lesionem, et terrorem populi nostri manifestum, unde dampna et pericula graviora in brevi timetur evenire nisi remedium cicius ad hoc apponatur: Nos dampnis et periculis huiusmodi* precavere volentes, ut tenemur, assignavimus dilectos et fideles nostros Hugonem de Menilľ, Iohannem de Hinkeleye, et Iohannem de Myners, et† duos eorum ad inquirendum per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de comitatu tuo, tam infra libertates quam extra, per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit de nominibus illorum qui huiusmodi confederaciones, congregaciones, et conventicula illicita seu alia huiusmodi mala, per que

* MS. *hi*^{9}. † *Sic*, for *vel*.

pax nostra ledi seu populus noster terreri valeat, fecerunt seu fieri procurarunt; et de confederacionibus, congregacionibus, et conventaculis predictis et premissis omnibus et singulis plenius veritatem.* The sheriff is to summon witnesses before the said commissioners. *Lincoln:* 18 Sept. a. 1 [Edw. III., 1327].

This writ ends in the middle of the column, the rest of which is left blank; and on the next leaf (f. 83) begins the Register properly speaking, from which numerous documents have been printed by Dugdale, and of which a fairly detailed description is furnished by Dr. Cox. Among the contents are:—

f. 87*a*. Confirmation by Honorius III. to the chapter of Lichfield of the churches of Arnleg̃, Canoc, and Ruggel̃. *Lateran:* 5 May a. 5 [1221]. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1245 seq., No. xi.

f. 88*a*. Letters patent of Edward II., reciting that complaints had been made of the non-observance of the provisions of the first Statute of Westminster made by Edward I. in protection of the corn and other goods of the clergy, and requiring the sheriffs and others the king's servants to observe the same. *York:* 24 Nov. a. 10 [1316].

f. 88*b*. Letters patent of Edward II. containing his answers to articles of the prelates and clergy at the parliament of Lincoln (a. 9) concerning the use of royal writs and prohibitions in matters affecting the clergy. *York:* 24 Nov. a. 10 [1316].

On f. 93*b* begins a series of documents concerning the church of Harborne and the chapel of Edgebaston claimed by Henry de Gamo, prebendary of Gaye Minor as pertaining to his prebend, and by the dean and chapter as pertaining to the common fund (*communa*) of the church. Both parties agreed, with the consent of the bishop, to refer the dispute to the arbitration of Jordan de Wimburn, archdeacon of Chester, and of Walkelin de Houton, canon of the church, 1279, who gave their decision in favour of the chapter. Henry de Gamo accepted the decision and resigned the benefice, 9 Oct. 1279. In course of time a suit was brought against the dean and chapter by Reynierus de Wichio, called de Florencia, clerk of the archbishop of Canterbury, in the archbishop's court; but the prosecutor withdrew from the case, 11 May 1283.†

f. 95*a*. Deeds relating to the houses in London within and without Newgate acquired by Hugh [of Nunant], bishop of Coventry, and by him, "cum assensu maioris et omnium baronum civitatis illius, in communi hustingo, et assensu eciam domini Rothomagensis archiepiscopi tunc iusticiarii et omnium aliorum iusticiariorum ipsius," conveyed to his successors in the see, to serve as a town-house for them in perpetuity, without power of sale or alienation. *n. d.* [*end of twelfth century*].

f. 105*b*. Confirmation by John [of Derby], dean, and the chapter [20 June 1315] of a grant by Walter [Langton], bishop, to the vicars of the church of the site since known as the Vicar's Close. "Dilectorum nobis in Christo vicariorum in ecclesia nostra Licĥ iugiter ministrancium non habencium infra clausum Licĥ ubi capita sua reclinent honestatem pariter et quietem corditer affectantes, considerantes eciam pericula que ecclesie nostre predicte, ex eo quod vicarii ipsi extra clausum predictum nocturnis temporibus hospitantur, possent forsitan imminere, Nos ad

* A verb or a short clause is here wanting.

† Other documents connected with this case are noticed below under ff. 160*b*, 161, 162.

honorem Dei, beate Marie virginis, et beati Cedde patroni nostri assignamus predictis vicariis quandam placeam in clauso Lich̃ cum omnibus domibus superedificatis, columbariis et grangia dumtaxat exceptis, que fuit quondam magistri Thome de Adberburi, que se extendit in longitudinem iuxta murum lapideum dicti clausi, ab area magistri Walteri de Thorp̃ usque ad altam viam que ducit ad portam occidentalem dicti clausi, in latitudine vero se extendit a predicto muro lapideo usque ad metas et bundas per nos positas et ordinatas." *Lichfield:* 6 January 1314/5, a. cons. 19.

f. 118. Release by Richard de Harcurt to R. [Weseham or Meulan ?], bishop, of "totum ius et clamium quod habui vel habere potui in omnimodis animalibus adventiciis que Gallice dicuntur *Wayf* in tota terra mea et toto feodo meo que de ipso teneo in comitatu Stafford inventis."

f. 126*b*. Grant by Stephen to the church of Lichfield and to Walter its bishop to hold a market (*forum*) at Lichfield and Eccleshall every Sunday throughout the year. *Witnesses:* Osb̃ Marc', Wid. fil. Test," William de Fraxino. "*Apud Wicumbam* in obsidione"* [1153].

f. 127. Mandate of Alexander III. (headed "Delegacio apostolica contra Archidiaconum Staffordie et Monasterium de Oseneye super possessorio ecclesie de Lich̃ in Ecclesia de Schenstan").

"Alexander episcopus, servus servorum Dei, venerabili fratri episcopo† et dilecto filio priori‡ Conventr' salutem et apostolicam benediccionem. Ex parte decani et capituli de Lich̃ ad nostram noveritis audienciam ervenisse quod ecclesia de Senestan sine iudicio et iusticia sint§ spoliati, quam Radulfus archidiaconus Staff' et canonici de Osneia irracionabiliter detinent occupatam. Quoniam igitur memorato decano et capitulo ex commisso nobis officio et iure suo adesse tenemur, discrecioni vestre per apostolicase ripta precipiendo mandamus, quatinus, partibus ante vestram presenciam convocatis, prefatum Radulfum et canonicos moveatis attencius et inducatis, et si necesse fuerit districcius compellatis, ut eisdem decano et capitulo prescriptam ecclesiam cum redditibus inde perceptis sine diminucione et maliciosa dilacione restituant et in pace dimittant vel in presencia vestra, sublato appellacionis remedio, exhibeant iusticie complementum. Siqua vero parcium a vobis legitime citata ad presenciam vestram|| accedere vel iudicio vestro in hoc parere contempserit, vos nichilominus in eadem causa quantum racio patitur procedatis. Porro si hiis exequendis uterque vestrum interesse non poterit, alter viris discretis et honestis ascitis¶ ea nichilominus exequatur. Dat' Ferentiñ, ii Kalñ Augusti. [31 July 1175.**]

f. 140*b*. Confirmation by Henry III. of the liberties granted in his minority in the Charter of the Forest and in Magna Carta. 28 Jan. a. 21. [1236–7.] Printed in Statutes of the Realm i. 28 (1810).

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* In marg.: "*Obsidione* H. ducis anno gracie M.C.LIII."
† In marg.: "*Episcopo* Ricardo peccatum."
‡ In marg.: "*Priori* Laurencio."
§ MS. *sunt.* || *Vestram*, written twice. ¶ MS. *a*e*scitis.*
** This is the only year in which Alexander III. was at Ferentino on 31 July. In 1161 he was there in the summer, but left the place before 10 July and did not return until after 4 August. In 1170 he did not arrive until after 12 September. In 1174 arrived after 8 October and resided at Ferentino continuously until the following October.

f. 141. Licence from Richard I. to Hugh [Nunant], bishop of Coventry, to hold a weekly market at Eccleshall on Sundays. *Freit Mantel* [*Freemantle*]: 30 Oct., a. 1 [1189].

Grant by Henry III. to Roger, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and his successors of free warren on their manors of Lichfield, Hewod, Langedoñ, Rugge', Kanocbur', Berkewic', Ecclesale, Brewode, and Beudesert, in Staffordshire; Preez in Shropshire; Sallowe in Derbyshire; and Ichentoñ, Tachebrok', in Warwickshire. *Woodstock*: 2 June, a. 43 [1259].

f. 141*b*. Grant by Henry III. to bishop Alexander of full testamentary powers. *Westminster*: 18 March, a. 18 [1233/4].

f. 142*b*. Writ of John to Geoffrey fitz Peter, earl of Essex, and Hugh de Nevill, forbidding them to hinder the bishop of Coventry "quin possit claudere de bosco suo de Brewode parcum quoddam qui contineat in circuitu duas leucas, et firmare castellum suam de Eccleshale" wherefore he has licence. *Witness*: W. Marshall earl of Pembroke. *Worcester*: 10 April. [1200*]. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1249, No. xxv.

Writ of Richard I. to the barons of the exchequer ordering them, whereas he has put away his anger and indignation against H[ugh Nunant] bishop of Coventry, to account to the bishop for whatever is owing to him from his lands, and also to pay 25*s*. to the church from the market of Lichfield for the soul of Henry II., to be specially mentioned by the said church. (William [Longchamp] bishop of Ely, chancellor.) *Le Mans*: 20 May [1195†].

Confirmation by John of the latter grant. *Apud Bonum Portum* [*Bonport*]: 13 July, a. 4. [1202].

Fine made at Herford, Thursday after Octave of Easter [15 April, 1176] proxim[a] postquam dominus rex Anglie accepit fidelitatem et liganciam Scotorum apud Eboracum,‡ coram Bertramo de Verduno et W. fil. Stephani et Thurstino fil. Simonis iusticiariis domini regis,§ concerning lands at Prees.

f. 143. Agreement between Hugh le Despenser and bishop Walter de Langetoñ concerning the closing of a deerleap, "quoddam saltatorium descendens de parco ipsius episcopi de Teruen in parcum predicti domini Hugonis in manerio suo de Barewe."

f. 143*b*. Confirmation by John of the liberties and immunities enjoyed by the bishop. *Valoyne*: 2 [Febr. ‖], a. 1, [1200].

f. 147. Appropriation of the church of St. Michael, Coventry, to the priory of Coventry subject to a pension of 30 marks to the dean and chapter of Lichfield and other charges. *Warwick*: 29 June, 1248.

f. 151*b*. Confirmation by Honorius III. of the union of the church of Adbaston with the deanery of Lichfield. *Lateran*: 7 April, a. 8. [1224].

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* John kept Easter, 9 April 1200, at Worcester. Howden, Chron. iv. 114, ed. Stubbs, 1871.

† This appears from Howden, iii. 287, to be the probable year.

‡ On 10 Aug. 1175, Eyton, Court of Henry II., p. 193 (1878).

§ These three officers were appointed justices for Herefordshire and other counties at the council of Northampton, 25 Jan. 1175–6. Bened. Abb., Gesta Hen. II. i. 107, ed. Stubbs, 1867.

‖ The month is omitted. John was at Valognes on 2 Feb. and 2 May 1200: T. D. Hardy, Rot. Litt. Pat. i. pt. i. introd. (1835). A comparison of the document A. 5 (see below, p. 228) makes the earlier date nearly certain.

f. 155. Commission of John XXI. to the abbat of St. Mary's and the chancellor of York to deal with the dispute between the dean and chapter of Lichfield and the prior and convent of Lenton concerning tithes [at Bakewell &c.] claimed by the former. *Viterbo:* 17 May, a. 1. [1277].*

ff. 156,157. Confirmations by Eugenius III. (*Signi:* 14 Febr. 1151[–2]), Lucius II. (*Lateran:* 4 May 1144), and Celestine II. (*Lateran:* 5 December a. 1 [1191]) of all or some of the possessions of the church and of the bishop of Lichfield. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1249, seq., No. xxvi–xxviii; calendared by Jaffé, Regest. Pontif. Rom. (2nd ed.), No. 9556, 16767, 8592.

f. 158*b*. Commission of Gregory IX. to the bishop of London and the priors of Merton and Westminster to deal with the dispute between the bishop and the prior and convent of Coventry concerning St. Michael's chapel in that city. *Lateran:* 10 July, a. 7 [1233].

f. 159*b*. Writ of Henry II. to the sheriff of Staffordshire to hear claims of the bishop of Chester and to see that he suffers no injustice. *Witness:* W. fil. Ger., chamberlain. *Northburn.*†

Mandate of Innocent IV., relating the disputed election to the bishoprick of Richard abbat of Evesham and of William [of Montpellier], and the death of the former and resignation of the latter, and appointing R[oger Weseham] dean of Lincoln. *Lyons:* 4 July, a. 3 [1245].

f. 160*b*. Mandate of Martin IV. to the abbat of St. Mary de Pratis, Leicester, the archdeacon of Northampton, and Master Giffrid de Vecano[?], canon of Cambray, to hear the cause brought by Walch[el]inus, canon of Lichfield, against Raynerius de Vichio, called de Florencia, in the matter of the church of Horburne [Harborne]. *Orvieto:* 20 May, a. 2 [1282].

f. 161. Mandate of Nicolas III. to the dean of Salisbury to inquire into charges of alienation of their lands and possessions by the dean and chapter of Lichfield, and to restore the same to them. *St. Peter's, Rome:* 13 Apr., a. 2 [1279].

Mandate of Gregory X. to the prior of Coventry to inquire into charges of alienation of his prebend [at Harborne] by Henry de Gamo, canon of Lichfield, and to restore the same. *Lyons:* 1 July, a. 3 [1274].

f. 162*b*. Mandate of Martin IV. to the abbat of Lilleshull, ordering him, at the petition of the dean and chapter of Lichfield, to procure the restoration to them of lands improperly alienated. *Orvieto:* 27 June, a. 1 [1281].

Mandate of Martin IV. to William de Conflens, archdeacon of Hereford, and to the treasurer and precentor of the same, to hear the appeal of the dean and chapter of Lichfield against the sentence of the archbishop of Canterbury in the dispute concerning the church of Harborne. *Orvieto:* 27 June, a. 1 [1281].

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* The date is interesting because pope John is said to have been crushed by the fall of a wall on 20 May, and to have died "infra triduum" (Oberti Stanconi Annales, in Mon. Germ. Hist. xviii. 285 [1863]). The date of his death, however, is usually given as 20 May (Annal. Placent. Gibell., ibid. p. 568). This document is later by twelve days than any registered by Potthast.

† Eyton has recorded no notice of Henry II.'s being at Northbourne, a village lying westward of Deal. The only time that the king is known to have been at Dover while Warin fitz Gerold was chamberlain was early in January 1155–6 (Eyton, p. 15), and to this date the writ may well be assigned.

f. 163. Mandate of Martin IV. to the abbat of St. James' and the prior of St. Andrew's at Northampton, and to the archdeacon of the same, to decide the case of the dean and chapter of Lichfield against the dean and chapter of Pencriz [Penkridge], who resisted their right in the moiety of the mortuary fees of Cannock. *Orvieto:* 31 Jan., a. 1 [1381–2].

f. 163*b*. Mandate of the same to the same to decide the case of the dean and chapter of Lichfield against the dean and chapter of Penkridge as to their spiritual jurisdiction in Cannock, disputed by the latter. *Orvieto:* 5 Jan., a. 1 [1381–2].

f. 164. Letters patent of Edward I. to bishop W[alter Langton] granting him "in auxilium civitatis paviande" a variety of customs and other dues, of which a tariff is given, at Lichfield for seven years. 18 April, a. 27 [1299].

f. 165*b*. Mandate of Boniface VIII. to the prior of Coventry to hear a dispute between the church of Lichfield and the prior and convent of Routon as to tithes [at Adbaston]. *Lateran:* 5 Jan., a. 6 [1301].

f. 166. Decision of commissioners under a mandate of Honorius [III.] (*Lateran:* 26 Jan., a. 5 [1221]) in a dispute touching the chapel of Wanere. *Witnesses:* Geoffrey prior of Coventry, William prior of Kenilworth, Mr. William de Manecester, Roger de Canvill, Roger Panculf, and others named.

f. 167. Mandate of Gregory IX. to H[ugh] elect of Coventry* to execute judgment on the monks who asserted rights and levied tithes in parish churches during the vacancy of the see. *Lateran:* 20 April, a. 14 [1240].

Mandate of Innocent IV. for the hearing of a dispute between the dean of Lincoln and the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield concerning the presentation to the vicarage of Wirkesworth.

Bull of Boniface VIII. to the chapter of Lichfield declaring the innocence of Bishop W[alter Langton] of the charges brought against him by Sir John de Lunetot,† corresponding to that to the King, of the same date, printed in Rymer's Fœdera, i. 956 seq. (ed. 1816). *Anagni:* 8 June, a. 9 [1303].

f. 182*b*. Acknowledgment by Albert de Nevilla, rector of Mamecestr', of his obligation to pay yearly to the bishop the *cathedraticum* of 2*s*. [*Beginning of thirteenth century*, before 1214].

f. 183*b*. Writ of Richard I. to the knights and burgesses of Coventry and all belonging to the priory requiring them to do homage and fealty to Hugh [Nunant] the bishop. *Witness:* Earl William, at *Guaidint'* [*Geddington*, in Northamptonshire], 17 Sept. [1189].‡

Ff. 184 seqq. contain numerous documents relative to the constant differences between the churches of Coventry and of Lichfield as to their respective rights in the election of their common bishop; and include (f. 187*b*.) a mandate of Honorius III. (*Lateran:* 31 May, a. 8 [1224].)

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* Hugh Pateshull was elected about Christmas 1239, but not consecrated until 1 July 1240. Le Neve, i. 547, ed. Hardy.

† Thus corrected from *Linetot*.

‡ The year is fixed by the council held at Pipewell abbey, about four miles distant from Geddington, 15–16 Sept. 1189. Richard was again "apud Gaidinton" in April 1194 (Howden, iii. 243 seq.).

f. 184*b*. A brief statement of the jurisdiction possessed by the secular cathedral churches of the province of Canterbury: Salisbury, Chichester, Wells, London, Lincoln, Exeter, and Hereford.

f. 187*b*. Mandate of Martin IV. for the determination of the jurisdiction of the bishops of Coventry and Lichfield and of St. Asaph. *Montefiascone:* 27 Sept., a. 2 [1282].

f. 190*b*. Mandate of Innocent IV. to restrain the abbat of Burton and others from dealing with matrimonial and other causes. *Lyons:* 18 Mar., a. 7 [1250].

Mandate of Innocent IV. to the bishop of Coventry to restrain his archdeacons from exacting procurations when they did not visit personally or in due manner. *Lyons:* 20 Mar., a. 3 [1246].

Mandate of Martin IV. for the hearing at Reading of the complaint made by the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry concerning the jurisdiction exercised by the archbishop of Canterbury over persons subject to the former. a. 2 [1282–3].*

f. 191. Judgment of Innocent IV. in the dispute between R[obert Grosseteste], bishop of Lincoln, and his dean and chapter concerning the visitation of the prebendal churches and other questions of jurisdiction and canonical obedience. *N.d.* [*Lyons:* 25 Aug. 1245†] (Potthast, No. 11,833). Followed by the composition between the dean and chapter of Lincoln and Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury, touching the jurisdiction and episcopal power during the vacancy of the see. *Lambeth:* 11 Kal. June [22 May] 1261.

f. 198*b*. Confirmation by Honorius III. of the chapter's right to elect their dean. *Lateran:* 23 April, a. 5 [1221].

Confirmation by the same of the liberties and immunities of the church of Lichfield. *Lateran:* 7 June, a. 8 [1224].

Letter of Honorius III. to bishop Alexander empowering him to enforce the statute against non-resident canons. *Lateran:* 20 April, a. 8 [1224].

f. 199. Confirmation by the same of the church of Torenthon [Thornton] to the chapter. *Lateran:* 24 April, a. 5 [1221].

Licence from Innocent III. to bishop G[eoffrey de Muschamp] to resume lands alienated by his predecessors. *Lateran:* 7 Jan., a. 1 [1199]. (Potthast, No. 564.)

Letter of Urban III. empowering H[ugh Nunant], bishop elect of Coventry, to appoint the prior of that monastery. *Verona:* 18 June (1186).‡

In the following leaves, ff. 199*b*, 200, are five documents relating to the possessions of the church of Lichfield, which are printed by Dugdale, vol. vi., 1251, seq., No. xxx.–xxxiv.

f. 201. Confirmations by Innocent IV. of the taxation of vicarages; two letters dated *Lyons* 5 and 4 April, a. 7 [1250].

f. 201*b*. Indulgence by Innocent IV. to the church of Lichfield in respect of the reception of letters of provision. *Lyons:* 5 March, a. 3 [1246].

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* The place and exact date are not supplied.

† See the text printed from the Liber Niger at Lincoln by H. Bradshaw, Statutes of Lincoln Cathedral, pp. 315–318, Cambridge, 1892.

‡ The year is added in the margin.

Solemn bull of Innocent II. confirming the possessions of the church of Lichfield. *Lateran:* 18 April, 1139. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252, No. xxxv.

f. 202. Confirmation by Clement III. of the restoration of the priory of Coventry. *Lateran:* 12 February, a. 2 [1188–9].

Confirmation by Innocent II. to bishop Roger of his possessions and liberties, and in particular of the collegiate churches of Stafford and Pencridge. *Lateran:* 21 April, 1139.

f. 202*b*. Confirmation by Lucius II. to the same of the churches of Stafford, Pencridge, and Wolverhampton. *Lateran:* 4 May, 1144. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252, No. xxxvi.

Solemn bull of Innocent II. confirming the possessions of the church of Coventry. *Lateran:* 19 April, a. 10 [1139].

f. 203. Confirmation by Lucius II. of the same. *Lateran:* 4 May, a. 1, 1144. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252, No. xxxvii.

f. 204. *Carta Henrici ducis de cuneo monete Lich.* Henricus dux Norm̃ et Aquit' et comes And' omnibus, &c. "Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse ecclesie sancti Cedde Lich̃ et Waltero Coventr' episcopo familiari et dilecto amico meo, ut unus cuneus monete et moneta sit imperpetuum apud Lich̃ sicut rex Stephanus concessit et carta sua confirmavit. Quare volo et firmiter precipio ne quis ei iniuriam* aliquam faciat. Teste Reg' com. Cornub., Guar' fil. Ger' Camerario†, Henrico fratre suo, apud Rouecestr." [1154.]‡

The charter is followed by that of Stephen, also to bishop Walter, here confirmed.§ (*Witnesses:* Richard de Luci, William Mart[el], R. de Canvilla. *London* [1151 ?]) and that of Richard I. (12 Nov., a. 1 [1189]).

f. 204*b*. Confirmation by Honorius III. of a sentence of S[tephen Langton], archbishop of Canterbury, annulling an election to the see of Coventry and Lichfield. *Lateran:* 12 May, a. 8 [1224].‖

f. 206*b*. Confirmation by the same to the dean and chapter of their churches of Bakewell and Hope. *Lateran:* 4 May, a. 5 [1221].

Confirmation by Gregory IX. of the judgment against the monks of Coventry in their claim to exemption from the bishop's visitation. *Viterbo:* 8 Jan., a. 9 [1236].

f. 215*b*. Ordinance of bishop Hugh [Nunant] touching the union of the church of Adbaldestoñ [Adbaston] with the deanery of Lichfield. Easter next after the death of Reginald bishop of Bath [*i.e.*, 1192].

f. 216*b*. Confirmation by Honorius III. of the same. *Lateran:* 7 April, a. 8 [1224].

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* MS. *iū iniuriā.* † MS. *Suar' fit Ser'.*

‡ Henry was at Rochester in 1154 (Gervase of Canterbury, i. 158, ed. Stubbs, 1879), before he left England for Normandy "circa Pascha" (Robert of Torigny, *s.a.*).

§ Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252, No. xxxviii., where the form *Marc'* is read as *Marcer.*

‖ Another copy of this bull is in doc. B. 22. The month is apparently wrong, since Honorius consecrated Alexander of Stavensby bishop of Coventry on 14 April 1224 (Matthew Paris, Chron. Mai., iii. 89, ed. Luard, 1876).

f. 217. Confirmation by R[ichard] archbishop of Canterbury, as legate of the holy see, of the possessions of the dean of Lichfield. [1177–1182].*

f. 219. Letters of Henry III. exempting the bishop and the canons of Lichfield from the obligation of hospitality in their houses within or without the close. 25 Oct., a. 56 [1271].

f. 232*b*. Bull of Clement IV. confirming the excommunication of the dean and chapter of St. Mary's, Stafford, for resisting the bishop's visitation. *Viterbo:* 3 Aug., a. 3 [1267].

f. 235*b*. Minutes of the election of a dean in succession to John of Derby, 31 Oct. and 5 Dec., 1319.

f. 240. Mandate of Honorius III. to the chancellor [of England] and to M[artin] de Pateshella, canon of London, to hear and decide a dispute concerning the alienation of portions of the prebends of the church of Lichfield. *Lateran:* 4 June, a. 8 [1224].

f. 241. Letter of R., prior of Coventry, accepting the votes of the canons of Lichfield at the election of bishop Hugh de Pateshull in spite of there being but few present. [1239.]

f. 241*b*. Two charters of Stephen granting to bishop Roger and the church of Lichfield the church of Wolverhampton, and the churches of Pencridge and Stafford.† Both are printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252, No. xxxix., xl.

f. 242. Grant by Edward I. to bishop Roger [de Meulan] of the forest of Cannock. 1290. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1252 seq., No. xli.

f. 255. Notification by the churches of Lichfield and Coventry of the death of bishop Roger de Meuland, Friday after St. Lucy [16 Dec.], 1295; and summons to the two chapters to meet on the Friday after St. Hilary [20 Jan., 1295–6] to elect a successor.

Convention between bishop Roger and the prior of Coventry settling the form of the visitation of the house by the former. 1283.

f. 267. Rescript of John XXII. to the archbishop of Canterbury:‡

Johannes episcopus servus servorum Dei venerabili in Christo fratri . . . archiepiscopo Cantuariensi tocius Anglie primati salutem et fraternam in domino caritatem.

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* Bishop Richard Peche, to whom the document is addressed, died 6 Oct. 1182, and one of the witnesses, William archdeacon of Gloucester, was appointed in 1177 (Le Neve, iii. 76).

† The former is dated at Oxford and witnessed by Ph' Cant' and W. Mart', who appear in Dugdale as 'canter.' and 'Marcer,' instead of Philip the chancellor and William Martel. Philip de Harcourt became chancellor in 1139, and in Christmas of this year he is found with Stephen at Salisbury (Sarum Charters, p. 9, ed. W. Rich Jones and W. D. Macray, 1891), whither the king had gone from Oxford (cf. Contin. of Florence of Worcester, ii. 122, ed. B. Thorpe, 1849; and Round, Geoffrey de Mandeville, pp. 46 *seqq.*). The grant of the charter may therefore be placed during the king's visit to Oxford in December 1139. The other charter is dated at Westminster, and witnessed by William archbishop of Canterbury and Henry bishop of Winchester. The archbishop died on 26 Nov. 1136. Both prelates attended the King's Easter Court in March of that year (Round, *l.c.* pp. 262 *seq.*), to which date the document is probably to be assigned.

‡ This letter was no doubt addressed to archbishop Reynolds, and its date should seem to be not long after the battle of Bannockburn.

Quoniam ex iniuncto tibi administracionis officio animarum cura teneris salubriter gerere, et pro domo Domini ascendentibus ex adverso murum inexpugnabilem te prebere, verbum Domini in ore tuo alligatum esse non expedit, quin loquaris in spiritu libertatis quod quietem populi, quod ecclesie libertatem, honorem Dei, et liberacionem patrie conferat, et specialiter karissimum in Christo filium nostrum, Edwardum regem Anglie illustrem, ad viam veritatis et iusticie (Domino inspirante) reducat. Sane, frater, aperte vides, nisi forte dissimules,* quod ecclesia, que libera debet esse, sub regis predicti regimine variis exaccionibus et angariis infestis opprimitur, sicque depressus est status eius a multo iam tempore ut evidenter ancillari cogatur. Bona eius, ad que laica manus extendi non debet pro libito, diripiuntur in predam; clerus vexatur indebite et habetur probroso contemptui; vixque reperitur aliquis quem sic zelus dominice domus comedat, ut† velit super illius concussione moveri.‡ In regno iusticia, que principaliter elucere debet in principe, debito cultu non colitur; set ad iniurias et oppressiones iniquas frenum multorum impune laxatur. Officiarii regii, regalibus iuribus non contenti, bona et iura fidelium tirannidem§ excercentes occupant et usurpant. Inter hec Terribilis in consiliis super filios hominum, sponse sue zelans honorem et comodum, guerrarum dispendia suscitat, in quibus ecclesie thesaurus iniuste direptus expenditur; nec commissa ex hiis prelia prosperantur, cum nunquam ecclesie spolia vel depredaciones pauperum felicem habuisse reperiantur eventum. Inter hec eciam Ille qui iudicat pro mansuetis terre, gemitibus oppressorum pie compaciens, propter iniusticias huiusmodi regem et regnum humiliat; eosque ab illis quibus olim consueverant imperare inaniter affligi permittens, eorum statum ignominiose conculcat. Miramur igitur, si te in premissis, que ut credimus ignorare non potes, zelus Domini aut ecclesie non tangit afflictum, si regis vel regni compassio te non movet. Miramur, si, veluti canis mutus, latrare non valens aut non volens, impietatem suam non annunciaverit impiis ne, si in|| impietate sua mortui fuerint, eorum anime de tuis manibus requirantur. Miramur, si, homini deferens contra Deum, officiarios predictos avertere, quantum necesse¶ fuit in hac inhumana tirannide, timuisti. Quid autem? sic fraternitatem tuam monendam duximus et ortandam in Domino Iesu Christo, per apostolica scripta tibi precipiendo mandantes, quatinus ad excellencie regie puritatem, gratam Regi regum, per quem datur regnare principibus, conservandam intendens, ipsum in regno suo eiusque regnum sub eius regimine dirigere pro viribus satagas, [f. 267*b*] eumque exhortacionibus efficacibus solerter inducas, quod ecclesias ac personas ecclesiasticas regni sui semper habeat in honore, ab eorum iniuriis omnino desistat, suosque officiarios desistere faciat; iura et libertates eorum manuteneat, protegat, et defendat, ac eos favorabiliter prosequatur; expediciones bellicas non de ecclesiarum vel pauperum spoliis, set fiscali errario faciat, ut eas feliciorem exitum habere contingat; iusticiam ministret et ministrari faciat; talesque ministros publici iuris statuat, qui Deum timeant et iusticiam diligant, et nullum in eius execucione formident, qui non sequantur retribuciones et munera, qui penarum graciam non acceptent, et qui de assistencium sibi favore fiduciam impunitatis aut audaciam non habeant serviendi. Quid eciam? ipse idem** interdum se pauperibus visibilem, adhibilem, et affabilem prebeat, eorum clamores et gemitus non con-

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* MS. *dissimiles*.
† MS. *nec*.
‡ MS. *moneri*.
§ MS. *tirannide*.
|| *si in* written *si*, as though *sibi*.
¶ MS. *ncce*, with no mark of contraction.
** MS. *ide'*.

tempnat, tam vidue adiutorium introeat, oppressiones pauperum relevet, pupillo et orphano sit adiutor. Conquerentes de se aut officiariis et familiaribus suis audiat pacienter, cicius quam alios illos expediat, nec conviciis affici vel comminacionibus deterere permittat; et ut ea que semper digna sunt principi cogitet et se in illis libenter exerceat, prelatos et viros illuminatos* suo assistentes habeat lateri, qui ea maturitate et honestate profulgeant quod in eorum presencia† inordinatum aliquid agere vereatur. Speramus etenim quod, si rex ipse implere premissa curaverit, Rex regum sibi et regno suo placabitur, eiusque negocia diriget, et, cum illi placuerint vie eius, inimicos eius pia dignacione ad pacem convertet. Porro,‡ ut hiis cor regum ad suum vertat arbitrium, ille eciam in cuius manus sunt corda regum requirenda, esse credimus ad divinum auxilium, ut ipse qui supra regna hominum dominatur regem ipsum et regnum eius et eius incolas benigne respiciat, suam eis tranquillitatem et pacem misericorditer tribuat, eosque in beneplacito suo dirigens vias et actus eorum in sua prosperitate disponat. Et ut quod in hac parte petimus multiplicatis intercessionibus facilius assequamur volumus et mandamus, quatinus tu ceterique prelati quibus super hoc scribimus per singulas vobis subiectas ecclesias in missarum celebracionibus et oracionibus certa faciatis suffragia fieri pro rege et regno predictis, ut in sermonibus publice faciendis, fideles ad implorandum pro eis Patris eterni clemenciam inducatis et faciatis induci, publicaturi et publicari facturi indulgenciam quam per apostolicas litteras orantibus pro rege predicto nuper graciose§ concessimus, et nichilominus autoritate nostra alias, de quibus nobis videbitur, largituri.

Dat', &c.

f. 269*b*. Grant by John to the archbishop of Dublin of the advowson of Pencridge. *Dour'* [*Dover*]: 13 Sept., a. 17 [1215].

f. 274*b*. Ordination of the vicarage of St. Michael's, Coventry. 1249.‖

The following section, beginning with f. 275, is in a new hand of the latter part of the fourteenth century:—

f. 278*b*. Monition of bishop Alexander [of Stavensby] to the dean and chapter against exhuming the body of bishop William of Cornhill. *N.d.* [*c.* 1224].

f. 287*b*. Ordinance of the chapter for saying the mass of St. Chad at dawn. 1327.

f. 288*b*. Memorandum of the customs of the secular chapters of cathedral churches in the province of Canterbury (Wells, Hereford, London, Lincoln, Salisbury, and Exeter¶) as to the custody of temporalities and spiritualities during the vacancy of the see.

f. 295*b*. Confirmation by Honorius III. of the liberties and possessions of the church of Lichfield. *Lateran:* 7 June, a. 8 [1224].

f. 297*b*. Rescript of Gregory IX. touching the election of a bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. *Lateran:* 18 March, a. 1 [1227–8].

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* MS. *illos timoratos*.
† MS. *p'sencē*.
‡ The following sentence is corrupt.
§ MS. *grose*.
‖ Dr. Cox gives the date incorrectly as "*circa* 1290."
¶ Chichester is not included. Compare above on f. 184*b*.

f. 298. Letter of Honorius III. to the bishop of Coventry [Alexander of Stavensby] relieving him from the burthen of certain causes unless expressly committed to him. *Lateran:* 15 June, a. 10 [1226].

With this leaf the Register closes.

Among the other volumes in the possession of the dean and chapter are the following:—

I.–VIII. The Chapter Act Books, beginning in 1384,* contain much that is of more than local interest, and it would be well that a further calendar of their contents should be published than that given by Dr. Cox, who necessarily limits himself to "brief notes."† With occasional hiatus, and a long blank in the middle of the seventeenth century, the series, so far as it is preserved in the Registry, extends continuously down to 1795. Besides these there are two books (XI., XII.) of rough minutes of chapter acts, 1531–3 and 1541–2; a volume (IX.), entitled "Acta capitularia," relating to jurisdiction in the peculiars, 1709–1731, and seven volumes (X.) of the "Acts of the hebdomadary Chapter," which also begin in 1709.

The earliest book of Statutes now preserved in the Registry, named on the cover "Liber primus Miscellaneorum" (XIII.), was written near the end of the sixteenth century.‡ It contains the older collections of Statutes arranged under bishops, together with some miscellaneous articles. The statutes down to those of bishop Geoffrey Blythe are printed by Dugdale vi. 1255–1266, No. xlvii.§ The book itself includes also those of bishop Overton and other documents. There are besides several later volumes containing the statutes of the church.

A volume (XVIII.) containing dean Heywood's visitation of the vicars of the church and of the citizens of Lichfield, 1461–1466, together with some wills.

A fragmentary book (XXIII.) containing charters, &c., relative to the pensions due to the chapter. *15th–16th cent.*

Two chartularies of the church (XXIV*a*., XXV.). *15th and 16th cent.*

Three volumes (XXVI.–XXVIII.) containing records of dean Heywood's benefactions to the church in the latter part of the fifteenth century (lettered "Cantaria S̃ci Blasii"). These are preserved in the Chapter Library, but are properly included by Dr. Cox among the Muniments. Another volume (XXIX.) contains duplicates of a portion of the same documents.

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* An earlier volume, beginning in 1321, has unfortunately been separated from the series and is now preserved in the Bodleian library (MS. Ashmole 794). It is much to be desired that it should be restored to the cathedral registry.

† Catalogue, p. 86.

‡ A fourteenth century copy is preserved at Lincoln Cathedral. See Bradshaw, pp. 91, 224.

§ It is natural to suppose that this volume is the "Autogr. penes Dec. et Cap. Eccl. Cath. Lich." which Dugdale used; but the number of small divergences, as well as other peculiarities, make it more probable that he transcribed an older text, which may be presumed to have been subsequently lost. As an instance of variety of reading the MS. XIII. has near the beginning "assensu recte legentium," and gives in the margin the obviously correct alternative "accentu." Dugdale, however, has neither of these, but "attentu."

Accounts of the garrison of the close (LIII. B) 1645–6. The "Oliverian Surveys" of the capitular estates and jurisdictions, in two volumes (LIV., LV.). 1649.

Various books of leases, accounts, &c.

From the great collection of single DOCUMENTS in the possession of the dean and chapter I select a few specimens which either from their antiquity or for other reasons appear to be of special interest. Those to which an asterisk is added are exhibited in glass cases in the chapter library.

A. 1.[*] Grant by Robert Marmiun "pro satisfactione patris mei et pro salute anime eius" [*i.e.* of the Robert Marmion who died excommunicate in 1143] to the church of Lichfield in perpetual alms of the church of Torentone [Thornton] with the appertinences thereto. *Witnesses:* Roger, archdeacon of Salop; Nicholas, king's chaplain and treasurer of the church of Lichfield; master Terricus; master Geoffrey de Lent[on]; Richard de Curzun; William clerk; Robert De Moy; Ralph Poter; Ridelus; Ivo De Moy; Hugo De Cuilli; Jordan son of Simon; William son of Thomas; and many others. *N.d.* [*Middle of 12th century*].

A. 2.[*] Grant by William son of John, with the assent of Seburga his wife and of his heirs, to Matthew,* canon of Lichfield, of land "intra toftum quod fuit Lamberti" and a fishpond, in consideration of the payment of 3½ marks of silver by Matthew; after whose death the said William and Seburga are to pay from this land for ever 2*s.* to the "Martirlogium" and 2*s.* to the fabric of the church of Lichfield. *Witnesses:* Ernulf, canon; Dionisius, canon; master Robert de Pencriz; Henry, canon; Robert, chaplain; Nicholas, chaplain; Richard de Wurefeld; William, the dean's clerk; Adam, chaplain; Ovianus; Richard son of Matilda, chaplain; Richard de Freford, chaplain; Jordan, deacon; William, master R. de Pencriz's clerk; Samson of Lichfield; Henry King; William Curant; Henry the goldsmith; and many others. [*Late 12th cent.*] *Seal* fragm.

A. 3. Deed of the same, engaging to carry out their promise with respect to the payments to the church of Lichfield. *Witnesses:* the same as in the preceding, but with the omission of Robert the chaplain, Ovianus, Richard son of Matilda, Richard of Freford, Jordan, and Henry King, and the addition of Geoffrey the deacon, John de Pipa, and Henry the reeve (who occupies the same position in the list, and is no doubt identical, with Henry King).† [*Same date.*] William son of John's *seal* imperfect.

B. 17. Grant by bishop Hugh and the dean and chapter of Lichfield to canon Matthew, who at the time of the grant to the church of Lichfield of the church of Baucwell possessed a prebend in the latter, confirming him therein at a yearly pension of one *aureus*. [1188–1198.] Bishop's *seal* fragmentary.

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* He appears in another Lichfield document in Dugdale vi. 1248*b*, which belongs to the time between 1189 and 1198.

† I call attention to the identity of twelve or thirteen names out of fifteen in this charter with those in the foregoing one because Dr. Cox has unaccountably dated the two documents ten years apart, *c.* 1170 and *c.* 1180. The nature of the second deed implies its simultaneous production, and this the names of the witnesses prove.

A. 5. Grant* by king John to the church of the blessed Mary and St. Cedda of Lichfield and to Geoffrey bishop of Coventry and his successors, of the church of Bathecwell [Bakewell] "secundum ordinem et dispositionem quam Hugo bone memorie Coventrensis episcopus super eadem ecclesia de Bathecwell fecit," conditional on the maintenance of three priests to do service in the church of Bakewell; the church of Lichfield agreeing further to provide a "presbiter prebendarius" to sing mass daily for the king's health and after his death for the salvation of his soul. *Witnesses:* William Maresc', earl of Pembroc; William, earl of Salisbury; John de Pratell; Robert de Turnham; Thomas Basset; Engelr de Pratell; Richard de Reveriis; William de Cantilupo. *Given* by the hand of S[imon] archdeacon of Wells, *Valoyn'* [*Valognes*], 3 Febr., an. 1. [1199–1200]. *Great seal* restored.

A. 6. Grant by Thomas de Hamstede to Geoffrey son of Simon de Pipe of a rent of 12*d.* in the town of Lichfield from the houses of William son of Thomas Swalve, "que domus stant inter capitales domos Iacobi de Staus et domos Iohannis filii Nicholai Albi," at the rent of one roseflower on St. John Baptist's day. *Witnesses:* Master Henry Cheynturel; Richard de Hulton; William de Hovediswoche; Henry le Kyng; Alexander le King; Richard le yung; John Bonde; and many others. [*end of twelfth cent.*] *Seal* fragm.

B. 1. Grant by Geoffrey bishop of Coventry to the "communa Licheffeldensis ecclesie que supra modum tenuis est et modica" of 20 marks yearly "ad cervisam habendam" charged on the church of Hope and its chapels. *Witnesses:* Mr. Erard canon of York, Mr. John de Newerc, Mr. Nicholas de Westoñ, Osbert de Witintoñ, Michael the chaplain, William de Damartin, Thomas of Beverley. [*Beginning of 13th cent.*]

B. 9. Grant in frankalmoign to the church of Tydeswell, and to Ralph, the dean, and the chapter of Lichfield of a toft at Litton "ad edificandum et claudendum prout viderint sibi expediri," with full perambulation, "pertica continente viginti pedes;" mention being made of the "iter quod extenditur a capite ville de Lyttoñ et sic ad crucem lapideam versus Tideswell." *Witnesses:* Thomas, precentor of Lichfield; Ralph Rusteng, canon; John de Uttokeshal; Thomas de Crawell successor; Alan, vicar of Tideswell; Ralph son of Ralph, priest, Henry de Lytton, Simon de Ascell, Hugh Martin, and others.† [1214–1222].

B. 3. Confirmation by bishop W[illiam of Cornhill] to the church of Lichfield of one third of the church of Bakewell which Stephen Ridel‡ had held. *Witnesses:* Mr. John Blund; Mr. Nicholas de Weston; John de Guiges; William de Hadfield; Richard de Chaucumb; Henry de Sancto Botulfo; Ralph, clerk of London; Simon Pinel; Robert de Marisco, and many others. [1215–1223.] *Seal* imperfect.

B. 4. Grant by the same to the same of the church of Hope with the chapel of Tideswell. *Witnesses:* Mr. Ralph de Meidestañ, archdeacon of Salop; Mr. Robert de Bosco; sir William, chaplain; William de Hatfield; Ralph de Pointoñ, clerk; and many others [1215–1221].

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* This charter is printed at length, but from a transcript, in Dugdale vi. 1251*a*.

† The handwriting of this charter forbids its attribution to so late a date as the times, 1254–1278, when Ralph Sempringham was dean and Thomas Wymondham precentor; it must be assigned, not indeed (as Dr. Cox says) to *c.* 1225, when William Manchester was dean, but to the period 1214–1222 of the decanate of Ralph Nevill, when we have to assume a precentor Thomas unknown to Le Neve.

‡ Compare below, doc. A. 9.

B. 11. Confirmation by bishop Alexander [de Stavensby] of the grant to the chapter of the churches of Baucwell, Hope, &c. *Witnesses:* the dean and many of the chapter and others, by name. [1231–2*]. Printed by Dugdale, vi. 1251*a*.

D. I. Indenture between Henry de Lexinton, the king's treasurer, and Ralph Vernon, whereby the former grants the latter the right to plough and sow certain lands "que seminate fuerunt die et anno quo assisa nove dissaisine commune pasture in Baucvell capta fuit inter eos aput Notingeham," Monday before St. Luke, 25 Hen. III., without exceeding or altering the extent tilled. 1243.

B. 14. Confirmation by bishop Roger [Weseham] of B. 11. *Witnesses:* Mr. Ralph, archdeacon of Chester; Mr. Henry de Wyshawe, the bishop's official; Mr. R. de Lacoke, Mr. T. Cumin, Mr. A. de Staunford; Wakelin and William, chaplains; Roger de Thorton, William de Burgton, Thomas de Bradeford, the bishop's clerks; and others. *Tachebroc:* 11 April, a. 2 [1247].

MM. 8.[*] Judgment of the papal commissioners in the dispute between the priory of Lenton in Nottinghamshire and the church of Lichfield. 1252. *Seals* of Walter, prior of the Friars Minor of Leicester; of Adam of Stanford, archdeacon of Chester;† of the priory of Lenton; and of its proctor, the subprior. Printed by Dr. Cox in the Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society, vol. v. (1883), pp. 157–161.

Y. 2. Acknowledgment by William de Luceby, archdeacon of Derby, of the exemption of the churches of Bathekwalle, Hope, and Tideswelle from his jurisdiction, as decided by the archdeacon of York, 'iudice a domino papa delegato.' *Witnesses:* Mr. William de Manecestr', dean; Mr. Thomas, precentor; Mr. Richard de Glovernia, treasurer; Mr. Peter de Radnoure, archdeacon of Salopesbir'; Masters William de Kilkenni, Hugh de Sotteby, Walter de Pertoñ, Robert de Chebbeseie, Alexander Blund, and sirs William de Eccleshal, Simon de Norwis, John Francisc', Ralph de Terne, canons of the church of Lichfield; and many others. *N.d.* [*c.* 1254.] *Seal.*

D. 5. A bond of Robert son of Hugh of Hope, reciting "quod cum viri venerabiles Radulfus decanus et capitulum Lych̃ ecclesie mihi et heredibus meis concessissent et dedissent in feodum et hereditatem unum mansum et duas bovatas terre in Hope, tenenda et habenda de eis et eorum successoribus per liberum servicium dimidie marce annue que Henricus prepositus quondam de eisdem et eorum ecclesie de Hope in villenagio tenuit: ego ex certa et expressa ac fideli paccione obligavi me et heredes meos eisdem decano et capitulo et eorum successoribus in perpetuum, quod nec ego nec heredes mei dictum tenementum particulatim unquam possimus diminuere nec per partes in aliquem vel aliquos transferre, set illud in perpetuum integrum conservabimus et indivisum hiis quibus de gradu in gradum iure debebitur hereditario; nec illud integrum Iudeis aut viris religiosis seu cuicunque alteri dare, vendere, vel invadiare aliquando possimus nisi de eorumdem et successorum

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* The date is fixed within these limits by the signature of William de Lucebi, archdeacon of Derby, whose predecessor, William de Muschamp, died in 1231 (Ann. Dunstapl., in Luard's Ann. Monast. iii. 126), and by that of Richard de Stavenesby, treasurer of the church, whose successor appears in 1232 (Le Neve, i. 581).

† This seal and document fix the date of archdeacon Adam, whose place in Le Neve, vol. i., 565, is occupied by two other officers, and who there makes his appearance first in 1271.

suorum assensu expresso." *Witnesses:* Dominus Thomas de Wymondham, precentor; Mr. William de Attelberge, William de Stanford', William de Neuton', and Walkelin de Houton', canons of the church of Lichfield; William, vicar of Hope; John Daniel; William Folegambe; Thomas his brother; Thomas le Archer; William Alli; Peter le Hore; and others. *N.d.* [1254–1278]. *Seal.*

A. 7. Grant by Simon the chaplain "filius Radulfi Ruffy Lycchyfeldye" to William chaplain of Lycchyffeld, called Bonde, 4½*d.* of yearly rent, to be received 2*d.* from Henry de Ang[u]lo, 2*d.* from Hugh Pyte, and ½*d.* (or else "unum par albarum cerotarum ad Pentecosten") from Hugh's servant. *Witnesses:* Henry le Kyng, Richard de Hylton, Richard de Fosseto, Nicholas Blund, John Bonde, Richard Felawe, Ralph Tenghy clerk, and others. [*Second half of thirteenth century.*]

A. 9. [*] Inspeximus of Henry III. of the grant by his father John, when earl of Moriton, to Hugh bishop of Coventry of the church of Hoppe with the chapel of Tidewell (which John had sealed and laid "super altare dominicum ecclesie Coventreie" and which bore date 1192, given by the hand of Stephen Ridel, his chancellor, with *witnesses*, Robert, earl of Meuslent; William Brieguerr'; Gerard de Canvill; Engeram de Pratell; Regiñ de Wassenvill; Hugh de Nevill; William de Hardredeshill; and the whole chapter of the church of Coventry; and many others).—*Witnesses:* W[alter], bishop of Bath and Wells; Roger de Leybourne; Robert Aguillon; John de Verdun; William de Grey; William de Aette; Nicholas de Leukemore; William Belet; Ralph de Bakepuz; Bartholomew de Bygod; and others.* *Kenilworth:* 7 Sept. a. 50 [1266]. *Great seal* restored.

N. 12. Bailiff's account of the town of Lichfield. 2 & 3 Edw. I. [1273–4.]

Z. 1. [*] Ordinance of John [Peckham], archbishop of Canterbury, touching the revision of the stipends of the clergy at Bakewell, &c. 1280. *Seal* ('restored from a duplicate†') representing an archbishop vested in pall, chasuble, stole, &c., and with mitre, having in his left hand an archiepiscopal cross and holding up his right in blessing; legend IOHES: DEI: GRA: ARCHIEPS [: CANTUA]RIEN: TOCIUS: ANGLIE: PRIMA[S]: the reverse showing the martyrdom of St. Thomas. Printed from a transcript in the Registrum Album, f. 102, in Dugdale, vi. 1246*b*–1248*a*, No. xv., but with a bad text.‡

A. 10. [*] Letters patent of Edward I. quitclaiming to the bishop of Coventry & Lichfield and to the dean and chapter of Lichfield all right in the advowson of the church of Bakewell. *Rothelanum* [*Rhuddlan*]: 12 Nov. a. 10 [1282]. *Great seal* restored.

RR. 3. [*] Rental of the treasurer of York cathedral. 1292. 13 leaves, of which the first and last pages are much defaced.

AA. 5. [*] Letter to Walter Langton [canon of Sandiacre in the church of Lichfield, afterwards bishop] from a clerk sent on business [possibly connected with the king's wardrobe] to the North. 29 June 1293–5.

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* The same witnesses subscribe a document of the same place and date in Dugdale, vi. 1251*b*, concerning Bakewell.

† Cox, p. 52, n. 2.

‡ Thus in the first paragraph "a convictu papali," for "populi"; and near the end (p. 1247*b*) "Erubesce ergo Sidon, vobis dicitur, ait Mar." for "ait mare" (referring to Isa. xxiii. 4). "Agnes" (p. 1247*b* middle) for "agnos" is probably a misprint.

Domino suo reverentissimo,* domino W. de Langetoñ suus clericus de Estham cum salute se totum.

Ecce, domine, nocte qua veneram apud Morpath, infirmabar ibidem, et ibi languebar fere usque ad mortem per v. dies, et in convalescendo per iiii. dies, ita quod vix veniebam apud Berwycum in vigilia apostolum Petri et Pauli. Sed modo, laudato Deo, sum satis incolumis et omnes littere mee sunt integre et salve similiter. In crastino apostolorum predictorum ego cepi† iter meum versus regem Scottorum qui‡ est in remocioribus partibus tocius regni sui. Et visitabo debitores domini nostri regis undique per viam et ostendam eis litteras potestatis nostre et eis strictissime iniungam quod sint apud Berwycum infra certum tempus cum pecunia in qua tenentur. Et impetrabo litteras regis ad compellendum omnes et singulos debitores predictos si necesse fuerit ad debitum solvendum in quo tenentur. Ac bene promitto, volo in fide qua teneor, quod non dormiam in exequcione huius negocii, ut videbitis dum fuero sanus. Litteras directas magistro Johanni Louel et vic' Novi Castri eisdem tradidi ut iussistis. Valeat dominus meus per tempora longiora. Scriptum apud Berwyk' die apostolorum predictorum.

RR. 5. [*] "Exitus maneriorum abbacie Burgi sancti Petri tempore vacacionis de baronia a xxv. Sept. anno r. r. xxvij" [1298].

RR. 6. Writ of Edward I. concerning a payment to merchants of Lukes [Lucca] out of the wardrobe. *Fragm.*

AA. 4. Mandate by W[alter Langton] bishop of Coventry and Lichfield to the prior and chapter of Norwich, for the publication of Clement V.'s decree annulling King Edward I.'s confirmation of the charters. 1306.

W. permissione divina Conventr' et Licħ episcopus, executor ad infrascripta exequenda a sacrosanta sede apostolica deputatus, venerande religionis§ viris priori et capitulo Norwyc̄ salutem et mandatis apostolicis humiliter obedire. Mandatum sanctissimi patris divina providencia summi pontificis domini Clementis pape quinti, non abolitum, non cancellatum, non abrasum, set suspicione omni carens nec in aliqua sui parte viciatum, vera bulla plumbea et filo canapis modo consueto bullatum, nos recepisse noveritis sub verborum continencia infrascripta:

Clemens episcopus servus servorum Dei venerabili fratri . . episcopo Conventr' et Licħ salutem et apostolicam benediccionem. Regalis devocionis integritas carissimi in Christo filii nostri Edwardi regis Angł illustris, que in exequendis votis apostolice|| sedis viget et viguit manifesta, digne meretur ut sedes ipsa ab eo obnoxia amputet, abstergat incomoda, et fructuosa procuret. Sane nuper digna relacione percepimus quod, ipso olim in Flandrea et antequam illuc eciam accessisset pro sui iuris tuicione contra nonnullos suos emulos et hostes agente, nonnulli regni sui magnates et nobiles alieque persone suo nomini inimice, ex eo oportunitate aptata quod extra regnum occupabatur in oposito emulorum, nisi eisdem quasdam concessiones varias et iniquas, forestas aliaque iura ad coronam et honorem sui culminis spectancia ab antiquo (que eciam priusquam a dicto regno secederet ab ipso impor-

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* *Sic.*

† Apparently a slip for *capiam.*

‡ After this is put for insertion $\frac{\bar{a}}{iqi}$.

§ MS. *religiosis.*

|| MS. *apostolicis.*

tunc petebant), fecisset, contra eum conspiraverunt, concitabant populos, et scandala plurima seminabant. Idemque rex prudenter illorum machinacionem advertens ac volens tunc currentis temporis vitare pericula, concessiones huiusmodi duxit plus coactus quam voluntarie faciendas, et tandem in regnum predictum eo postmodum revertente, licet non dum guerris sedatis eisdem, iidem magnates et alii concessiones huiusmodi per importunitatem et presumptuosam instanciam per eum optinuerunt eciam innovari, regalibus super hoc exhibitis litteris ut in omnes infringentes concessiones prefatus bis annis singulis per omnes regni predicti cathedrales ecclesias excommunicacionis sentencia promulgetur, sicut in eisdem litteris regis sigillo signatis plenius et seriosius continetur. Cum itaque sedes ipsa, que regnum prefatum diligit inter omnia regna mundi, et regem ac ipsum regnum gerit in visceribus caritatis, agnoscat concessiones easdem presumptas et factas in sui honoris dispendium et regalis excellencie detrimentum, concessiones easdem et vigorem ipsarum et quicquid per eas fuit quomodolibet subsecutum, ac eciam excommunicacionum sentencias, que in eisdem ecclesiis vel alibi fuerunt per illarum observacionem forsitan promulgate, autoritate apostolica de plenitudine potestatis revocavimus, anullavimus, cassavimus, cassas nullas et irritas nunciavimus, litteras super illis confectas viribus vacuantes, ac descernentes regem ipsum et successores suos reges Angl ad illarum observanciam decetero non teneri, eciam si de observandis eisdem sacramentum forsitan prestitisset; presertim cum, quando coronacionis sue suscepit solempnia de honore et iuribus corone prefate tenendis (sicut ex parte sua asseritur), prestiterit iuramentum, aut si ad penas aliquas se propterea obligasset, a quibus et reatu periurii, si quem propterea noscitur incurrisse, eum eciam absolvimus ad cautelam: districcius inhibentes venerabilibus fratribus nostris . . archiepiscopis et . . episcopis ceterisque personis tam ecclesiasticis quam secularibus per regnum ipsum ubilibet constitutis, ne ipsi vel quivis ipsorum . . archiepiscopis vel . . episcopis videlicet sub pena suspensionis et ab officiis et beneficiis, quam si per mensem sustinuerint sub [pena] excommunicacionis, quam eos ex tunc nec non omnes et singulos alios incurrere illico volumus ipso facto, ne contra huiusmodi revocacionis, anullacionis, cassacionis, irritacionis, et decreti nostri tenorem aliquid attemptare presumant. Nos enim ex tunc irritum decrevimus et inane si secus super hiis contigeret attemptari . . Quo circa fraternitati tue per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatinus anullacionem, cassacionem, irritacionem, absolucionem, inhibicionem, suspensionis et excommunicacionis sentencias et decretum, ac omnia et singula supradicta, in ecclesiis tuis et locis aliis, de quibus et quociens expedire videris, coram populo solempniter publicare procures, faciens illas autoritate nostra inviolabiliter observari; non obstante si aliquibus a sede apostolica sit indultum quod interdici, suspendi, vel excommunicari non possint per litteras apostolicas non facientes plenam et expressam ac de verbo ad verbum de indulto huiusmodi mencionem, contradictores autoritate nostra appellacione postposita compescendo. Dat. Lugd. Kal. Ianuar. pontificatus nostri anno primo.

Quocirca fraternitati vestre ea que decet reverencia, in virtute obediencie qua sedi apostolice tenemini, iniungendo mandamus, quatinus prefatum mandatum apostolicum in ecclesia vestra Norwycensi cathedrali per tres dies solempnes et festivos post exhibicionem presencium vobis factam immediate sequentes in processionibus solempnibus astante populi multitudine, nec non in sinodis et consistoriis; archidiaconis nichilominus locorum mandantes ut in capitulis singulisque

ecclesiis parochialibus et aliis congregacionibus ubi populi occurrit multitudo, publice legi et populo distincte seriatim et aperte exponi solicite procuretis, ipsi eciam id procurent: idem quoque mandatum apostolicum per singula loca colligata vestre diocesis publicari solempniter fac[iatis]: ne ipsius mandati per tot loca et varia promulgati ignorancia futuris valeat temporibus haberi quomodolibet seu pretendi. Ista taliter impleturi in devocionis promptitudine eam quam debetis domino nostro regi reverenciam ostendatis eidem et debitam impendatis obedienciam mandatori, et de execucione huiusmodi rite facta nos certificetis Londoñ citra quindenam Nativitatis beati Iohannis proximo futuram per vestram litteram patentem harum seriem continentem. Ad regimen ecclesie sue sancte in prosperis et votivis per longa tempora feliciter valeatis. Dat. Londoñ iii Id. Maii anno Domini M° CCC° sexto et consecracionis nostre decimo.

A certificate of the authenticity of the bull is appended by the transcriber John "dictus Bouhs," notary public, and John de Colonia and William Bouhs, clerks. 13 May 1306.

A. 11, 12. [*] Inspeximus, in duplicate, by Edward II. of A. 10. *Westminster:* 25 October, a. 14 [1320]. (Fine 100*s.*) *Great seals.*

B. 22, 23. Two rolls containing transcripts of royal charters from John to Edward II., and a confirmation by Honorius III. (*Lateran:* 4 Mar., a. 5 [1221]). [*14th cent.*]

R. I. Draught of a protestation of the proctor of certain secular priests [presumably canons of Lichfield] claiming the rights of the deanery during a vacancy in the office. [*Second quarter of 14th century.*]

O. 3. Schedule of muniments inspected in London by William of Brunalston, proctor in the court of arches. 1340:—

"Memorandum quod die lune in festo sancti Edmundi regis anno Domini MCC[C]XL inventa fuerunt omnia infra scripta per magistrum Walterum de Leyc' et I. Salamonem [?], visa et inspecta Lond̄ in domo M. Willelmi de Brunalston procuratoris in Curia de Arcubus, et per manum eiusdem in quadam parva carta depicta * * quibusdam rotunc' purioribus dimissa."*

Vide licet in primis quedam generalis confirmacio episcopi Rogeri recitans cartam Alexandri que sic incipit: *Universis sancte matris ecclesie filiis presentem paginam inspecturis; Rogerus miseracione divina Coventr' et Lich̄ episcopus*, &c. Et sic finit: *Dat' apud Stanlegh̄ xij Kal. Maii pontificatus nostri anno quinto. Hiis testibus, fratre Osberto*, &c. Non est alia carta.

Item confirmacio eiusdem R. episcopi super ecclesiam de Horburne et capellam de Burbyngham et de Egebastoñ que incipit: *R. Dei gracia Cestr' episcopus*, &c. Et sic finit: *Testante et confirmante hoc capitulo de Lich̄ et conventu de Coventr'.* Et sunt appensa duo sigilla.

Item composicio de Wolveya inter dominum Galfridum Coventr' episcopum et ecclesiam Lych̄ ex parte una et abbatem et monachos de Cumba† ex altera. Et incipit sic: *Hec est amicabilis composicio*, &c. Et sic finit: *Thoma de Beverlaco et multis aliis.* Et sunt tria sigilla, sed non est datum.

Item concessio episcopi Ricardi sigillo suo signata super ecclesiis de Thornetoñ et Danileg' et capella de Offelee et Birmyngham et incipit:

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* Much faded, and some letters wholly perished.

† MS. *cuba.*

Ricardus Dei gracia Coventr' episcopus, &c.; et in fine sunt nomina testium, sed caret dato.

Item confirmacio Roger de Wossenham super Baucquell, Hope, et Tyddeswell. Et incipit: *Universis*, &c. Et sic finit: *Dat' apud Heywod' Nonis Mar' anno Domini* MCCLI. Et memorandum quod ibi dicitur quod subsunt decano et capitulo pleno iure.

Item collacio vicarie de Baucquell facta per cap^m M. R. Bernard.

Item, quedam littera clausa abbatis de Burtoñ collectoris arrer[iorum] cuiusdam decime, missa decano Lych pro execucione facienda in ecclesia de Baucquell.

Item, quoddam aliud mandatum directa dicto decano per eundem collectorem &c. Et sic incipit: *Viro venerabili*, &c. Et sic finit: *Anno Domini* MCCCXV.*

Item, aliud mandatum prolixum continens processum factum per eundem abbatem pro Waltero de Neutoñ. Et incipit: *Willelmus permissione*, &c. Et sic finit: *Indiccione prenotata.*

Item, rubricelle extracte in una cedula per Idesworthe et Gloucestr' super visitacione ecclesiarum de Baucquell cum tribus aliis cedulis quedam argumenta continentibus eisdem annexis.

Item, quedam cedula continens copiam statutorum Rogeri vel Hugonis.

Item, quedam commissio Johannis Gasci facta locum tenentibus, que sic incipit: *Iohannes Gasci*, &c. Et sic terminatur: *Ad hec vocatus.*

Item, procuratoria et substituciones sub manu publica facta et facte dicto M. Willelmo et aliis diversis: erant [?] in numero xxxii.

Item, copia unius procuratorii signata in dorso signo magistri Philippi [?] de Pateneye que sic incipit: *In Dei nomine, amen. Noveritis universi*, &c.

Item, quedam littere et instrumenta concernentes Logor. Inprimis tres commissiones facte priori de Suthwerk per principales delegatos in quadam bulla Iohannis pape ex parte decani et capituli et ceterarum personarum de capitulo contra R. Logor impetrata nominatos.

Item, quinque littere colligate sive annexe concernentes eundem Robertum; videlicet, una inhibicio, una commissio, due subdelegaciones, et una cedula continens acta habita in ecclesia cathedrali Wygorñ.

Item, quoddam instrumentum publicum sub manu Simonis Laurencii de presentatis [?†] super appellacione facta occasione relaxac' sequestr' interposit' in fructibus ecclesie de Sutham &c.

Item, quedam littera episcopi clausa missa capitulo in qua interdicitur eis quod permitterent offic[ialem] Coventr'‡ disponere de fructibus ecclesie de Sutham.

Item, quedam bulla pape Iohannis ex parte decani et capituli contra Iohannem de Salefordñ rectorem ecclesie de Radestok' impetrata.

Item, iiij instrumenta publica sub manu dicti Simonis; videlicet, ii super actis et processu habitis contra dictum Johannem, tercium super porcione [?§] apostolorum, quartum perhibens testimonium de citacione eiusdem.

Item, commissio prioris Wygorñ.

Item, execucio archidiaconi Wygorñ.

Item, certificator' dicti Iohannis de Saleford.

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* Followed by five dots.

† This reading is conjectural. The manuscript is defaced and here almost illegible.

‡ Probably a mistake for *Cantuar'*.

§ The reading is uncertain on account of the bad preservation of the manuscript.

Attached to this is the certificated transcript of William of Brunalston, which repeats the substance of a portion of the inventory, but is to a great extent effaced.

A. 13. Inspeximus by Edward III. of A. 11. *Westminster:* 10 April, a. 19 [1345]. (Fine 40*s.*) *Great seal* restored.

O. 1. Sacrist's roll, 1346. Printed by Dr. Cox, Catal., append. i., pp. 199–207.

GG. 1.[*] Judgment of bishop Roger [Norbury] touching the residence of Roger de Nassyngton chancellor of the church and prebendary of Allerwas. 1357. *Seal* of bishop Norbury (a prelate vested, holding his right hand in blessing and having in his left a crozier, standing within a tabernacle on the pillars whereof on each side is an escutcheon charged with three leopards passant, and in the space at the base another shield charged with three roses) well preserved.

M. 12. Draught of deed by R.* bishop of L[ichfield] to the master and scholars of St. Michael's House, Cambridge, reciting that whereas "inter cetera que celestis Agricole summa benignitas plantavit in orto ecclesie militantis, illa decet collegia dignis honoribus attollere et favoribus prosequi graciosis, in quibus divinis obsequiis ferventer insistitur ac ad honorem Dei et sacrosancte ecclesie ad ortodoxe fidei incrementum fructuosa sciencia germinatur," Hervey de Staunton, now deceased, "dictam domum vestram fundavit et scolares in sacris ordinibus constitutos in domo ipsa sub perpetuo titulo moraturos et divinis obsequiis instituros ac in theologie et philosophie studio profecturos salubriter ordinavit" but died before completing his endowment, so the house is "manifeste paupertatis onere * * gravata, facultatesque domus predicte pro piis oneribus iuxta ipsius fundatoris ordinacionem iniunctis supportandis non sufficiunt, quantoque ipsa domus vestra opulencioribus facultatibus fuerit augmentata, tanto vos et vobis inibi successuri Deo poteritis devocius famulari et laudabilius proficere in sciencia litterarum": the bishop authorises the appropriation to the House of the church of C[headle] in its patronage.

H. 2. Will of James Denton, dean of Lichfield, making provision "for the payment of vi *s.* viii *d.* to one to preche a sermone apon estere day after none yerely in the Cath churche of lich aforesaid that is to wytte if my lorde the bysshopp be presente & will preche he to have the said vi *s.* viii *d.* or ell if [he] will not then the Dean if he will and if he will not then one of the Chanons resydensary As the said Dean & chapter thynkyth mete and elle suche as the said Dean and chapter shall appoynte" and also 2*s.* 4*d.* to the "sexten" "for rynging of the greatt bell to warne & gyffe knowlege for the sermone xii *d.* and xvi *d.* for sysz of waxe to the Chauntre preiste such as shalbe presente at matens which be seyd over nyght." 12 May 22 Hen. VIII. [1530].

S. 18–25. Correspondence between Richard Bancroft, archbishop of Canterbury, and the dean and chapter arising out of the former's attempt on three occasions to procure the election of his nominee to a canonry in the church. 1605–1608.

S. 9. Grant by bishop Robert [Wright] to Roger Fleetwood of the prebend of Bobenhull with power to exercise jurisdiction "iuxta vim,

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* The deed may be either of Roger Norbury or of Robert Stretton, probably the former. The notes of date are that it mentions Staunton as dead, and his heir Sir Alexander Walsham as living. Now Staunton died in 1337; Walsham was alive in 1345; and bishop Norbury lived on until 1358.

formam, et effectum statuti Parliamenti incliti huius regni Angliae." 11 Oct. 1644.*

O. 23. "A Catalogue of plate & Utensils belonging to y^e^ Cathedral Church of Lich: given into Chapter Oct^r^ 10^th^ 1726."

Among the documents calendared under O are many accounts, fabric rolls, and other papers relating to the repairs of the cathedral church after the Restoration, and in 1788 and the years following.

Among the Vicars' Muniments, now preserved in the Chapter Registry, is a general pardon by Edward IV. to the succentor and vicars choral (numbered IV. in Dr. Cox's postscript, p. 197 [*]). 28 Oct., a. 2 [1462]. *Great Seal.* With this is preserved the painted and ironbound oak casket in which, as is supposed, the pardon was preserved.

I have, in conclusion, to offer my thanks to the Very Rev. the Dean and the Rev. the Chapter for the liberality with which they granted me every possible convenience in pursuing my examination of their muniments; and I desire especially to express my grateful acknowledgments to the Rev. Canons Lonsdale and Curteis,† and to C. Gresley, Esq., the chapter clerk, for much kindness during my visits to Lichfield.

REGINALD L. POOLE.

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* The date is wrongly given. Bishop Wright died in August 1143 (Le Neve, i. 557). There was a vacancy in the prebend in 1143, but Fleetwood's appointment is not recognised in Le Neve, i. 587.

† These words were printed before Mr. Curteis's deeply lamented death took place on 9 Oct. 1894.

THE RECORDS OF THE CORPORATION OF GREAT GRIMSBY.

These records are preserved at the Town Hall, in fourteen large tin boxes, in the custody of the Town Clerk. They are for the most part in excellent preservation, but the contents of several of the boxes are in great disorder, the Fines and Sessions Papers especially being crumpled up in their boxes like so much waste paper. Much of this disorder, it is believed, is due to the unfortunate zeal of a former member of the Corporation in collecting seals, at a time, many years ago, when the Corporation had unrestricted access to the records; and the belief seems to receive some support from the fact that almost every seal has been removed from the Royal Charters and other deeds. The Court Books and Court Rolls, also, were until recently scattered about in various boxes, but this has now, with the permission of the Town Clerk, been remedied, and the boxes have been roughly arranged in the order in which they are dealt with in this Report.

The state of the Court Rolls, Sessions Papers, and Fines is such that it has not been possible, consistently with the instructions of the Commission, to do more than glance through the bundles in order to separate from them any documents of a different or more interesting character; and in this way many of the Royal letters, deeds, &c., calendared below, have been rescued from masses of comparatively valueless papers.

The thanks of the writer and of the Commission are due to the Corporation officials for their courtesy in facilitating this enquiry, and especially to W. Grange, Esq., the Town Clerk; also to Dr. E. L. Grange, the son of the Town Clerk, who has been instrumental in preserving several of the most interesting of the Royal and other letters printed in this Report.

The contents of the boxes are, roughly speaking, as follows:—

I. Royal Charters and Letters. Free School Deeds. Bailiffs' Extent Books.
II. Court Rolls.
III. Court Rolls and Sessions Papers.
IV. Court Books.
V. Court Rolls and Court Books.
VI. Court Books and Admissions of Freemen.
VII. Court Books.
VIII. Fines or Final Concords.
IX. Sacrament Certificates.
X. Chamberlains' Accounts (modern). Sessions Papers. Admissions.
XI. Chamberlains' Accounts (old). Election Returns. Admissions.
XII. and XIII. Printed Statutes.
XIV. Counterpart Leases.

ALFRED GIBBONS.

ROYAL CHARTERS, &C.

11 Hen. III., June 20 [1227].—Charter granting to the men of Grimsby the town and liberties, subject to a fee-farm rent of 111*l.*; saving the King's purprestures and rents, if any. The seal is gone, but the silk remains.

40 Hen. III., May 27 [1256].—Charter confirming the grant of the town, with purprestures, and reducing the fee-farm rent to 50*l.*, but reserving to the King the advowsons of the churches of Grimsby and Scartho.

12 Edw. II., June 4 [1319].—Charter inspecting and confirming the preceding charter, and granting to the men of Grimsby the return of the King's writs; immunity from being impleaded without the borough for matters arising therein, and from toll, murage, &c.; a gaol, &c. and extending the duration of the two yearly fairs. Endorsed with memoranda of its production in the Court of Common Pleas in Easter term 15 Edw. III. (rolls 112 and 240), and in the King's Bench in Michaelmas term 16 Edw. III. (roll 83).

37 Edw. III., July 12 [1363].—Letters patent exemplifying the above charter (here called "letters patent") of 4 June 12 Edw. II.

15 Ric. II., Nov. 25 [1391].—Letters patent inspecting and confirming a charter of 3 Nov. 43 Hen. III. [1258], regulating the trade of the borough, about which there had been disputes between the rich men and the poor men thereof, and containing curious provisions.

17 Hen. [VI.] Jan. 1 [1439].—Letters patent inspecting and confirming, with the assent of Parliament—

Letters patent of 20 Jan. 2 Ric. II. [1379], inspecting and confirming the above letters patent of 12 July 37 Edw. III.

Letters patent of 25 Nov. 15 Ric. II., as above.

Letters patent of 24 April 15 Edw. III. [1341], granting certain waste and marsh lands to the borough.

This document is beautifully illuminated; part of the Great Seal remains.

1 Henry VIII., March 4 [1510].—Royal letters to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of Grimsby, touching the holding of sessions, proclamations to be made thereat, offences to be dealt with, &c. Fragment of seal.

2 Henry VIII., June 29 [1510].—Letters patent inspecting and confirming—

Charter of 26 May 40 Henry III. [1256], granting to the townsmen immunity from arrest and distress for debt in cases where the principal debtors can be made to pay.

Letters patent of 1 Jan. 17 Hen. VI., as above.

Seal gone. Endorsed with a memorandum of its having been allowed by the Justices of Assize at Lincoln Castle, in a suit enrolled in Hilary term 7 Hen. VIII. (roll 288). There is also a contemporary copy of these letters patent.

2 Hen. VIII., Nov. 7 [1510].—Pardon to the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby. Seal gone.

1 Edw. VI., July 2 [1547]. A similar pardon. Seal gone.

1 & 2 Philip and Mary, 6 Feb. [1555]. Letters patent, of which only the last skin remains,* inspecting and confirming—

. . . . . .

Charter of 9 June 55 [Hen. III., 1271], inspecting and confirming a charter of 11 March 2 John [1201], being a charter of liberties to the town, of the same tenor as the Charter of Northampton.

* The full text is on the Confirmation Roll, 1 & 2 Philip and Mary, p. 1, No. 8.

[4] Eliz. [19 Feb., 1562.]*—Letters patent, of which only the first skin remains, being an inspeximus and confirmation of the preceding letters patent of Philip and Mary.

7 [Eliz.?] March 26 [1565?].—Letters patent exemplifying the charters of the town of Northampton, at the request of "the Mayor, Bailiff (*sic*), and Burgesses of Great Grymmesbye." Only the last two skins remain, and these are much injured by galls. The first charter remaining in this portion is dated 14 March 38 [Hen. VI., 1460],† which was confirmed by letters patent 10 July 2 [Edw. IV., 1462],† and those by letters patent 11 Feb. 11 [Henry VII., 1496].‡ Then follow—

Letters patent of 2 May 18 Edw. IV. [1478].
Charter of 22 Dec. 11 Henry VII. [1495].

All the foregoing charters were confirmed to the town of Northampton by letters patent 14 Feb. 2 [Hen. VIII., 1510],§ which were confirmed by letters patent 27 Oct. 1 [Edw. VI., 1547].‖ These letters patent of 7 [Eliz.?], being a mere exemplification, are not enrolled on either the Patent Rolls or the Confirmation Rolls.

4 James II., Sept. 15 [1688].—Letters patent making the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby a corporate body, with Recorder, Aldermen, Coroners, Common Councilmen, Bailiffs, Common Clerk, &c., and conferring various privileges upon them. Three skins, with part of the Great Seal, of green wax.

The Free School Lands.

These formerly belonged to Rayner's chantry in St. James's Church. The deeds relating to them are in Box I.

16 Edw. [III.] June 5 [1342].—Letters patent licensing Edmund de Grymesby to give and assign to a chaplain in the church of St. James of Grymesby ten tofts in Grymesby, and 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly from a messuage late of Robert David in the same town; which premises are held of the King in burgage, viz., the messuage by the service of six marks and the tofts by the service of 3*s.* 4*d.* Seal gone.

Duplicate of the preceding, in a bad state.

16 Edw. [III.] Sept. 12 [1342].—Letters patent licensing Edmund de Grymesby to give and assign to two chaplains ten marks' worth of lands, tenements, and rents, except lands held of the King in chief. Endorsed: Carta E. Reg' de decem marc' pro ij^{bus} capell' pro Reyner chantr'. A large portion of the Great Seal remains.

19 Edw. [III.] March 12 [1345].—Letters patent licensing Edmund de Grymesby to grant to the said chaplain seven shops, twelve acres of land, and five acres of meadow in Grymesby, held of the King in free burgage, and worth 26*s.* 8*d.* yearly. Endorsed: Carta de sept' seldis et xij acr' terr'—lee Rayner Chauntr'. Decayed; seal gone.

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* Date ascertained from Confirmation Roll, 4 Eliz., p. 1, No. 23.
† Dates ascertained from Patent Roll, 2 Edw. IV., p. 5.
‡ See Patent Roll, 11 Hen. VII., p. 2, m. 19.
§ See Confirmation Roll, 2 Hen. VIII., p. 11, No. 3.
‖ *Ibid.*, 1 Edw. VI., p. 4, No. 3.

1 Edw. VI. July 12 [1547].—Letters patent founding a free grammar school at Grymesby, at the request of Sir Edward North, Chancellor of the Court of Augmentations; with one master and one under-master, to be nominated by the Mayor and Burgesses. Power is given to them to acquire lands and tenements to the yearly value of forty marks for the support of the school. Also, licence to Thomas Thomlynson, perpetual chaplain of the chantry called Raynard Chauntrie, in the parish church of St. James, to give and grant that chantry, and all its manors, messuages, ornaments, jewels, lands, &c., to the Mayor and Burgesses, in part satisfaction of the said forty marks; the same being of the yearly value of 4*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, over and above 9*s.* 6*d.* reserved to the King as a tenth. Seal gone, but the silk remains; and it bears the royal sign manual.

1 Edw. VI. Sept. 20 [1547].—Deed of Thomas Thomlynson, chaplain of the chantry called Raynarde's Chantry in St. James's Church, whereby, under licence from the King, and in consideration of 80*l.* paid by the Corporation, he grants to them the said chantry and its possessions, subject to a yearly rentcharge of 9*s.* 6*d.* payable to the King.

Charities.

(Box I.)

10 Eliz. May 25 [1568].—Decree in Chancery in a cause between the Corporation, complainants, and Jackson and others, defendants, as to an annuity charged by Katherine Mason, widow, on the manor of Goulceby, and lands there and at Asterby and Scamblesby, by deed dated 10 Oct. 5 Edw. VI. [1550], in favour of the Corporation, for a schoolmaster to teach grammar and the Latin tongue at Grimsby.

9 Eliz. Aug. 4 [1567]. — Depositions taken before Sir Richard Thimbleby, knight, and Thomas St. Poll and Edward Dighton, esquires, in the same cause.

Edmond Fraunces of Golceby clerk, æt. 60, says one Stut had the manor-house and rectory by lease from King Henry VIII. within this 10 years, and mentions several occupiers.

Other witnesses (Robert Fyshe of Golceby, æt. 35, John Jackson of Asterby, æt. 40, Robert Wright of Grimsby, æt. 48, Robert Wyndell of Holton, æt. 46, Robert Hundlebye of Grimsby, clerk, æt. 50, William Ellarde, æt. 30, Wm. Wright, æt. 30, Wm. Bonde, æt. 80, Wm. Kent, æt. 50, Robert Fotherby, æt. 33, and Robert Lorde, æt. 60, all of Grimsby) depose that John Bellow, esq., held the manor of Golceby by knight service, and sold the same to the Defendant John Hatton and Clare his wife for 200*l.*

1616, April 22.—Office copy, dated 5 July 1619, of the will of John Fotherby of Little Charte, co. Kent, clerk, giving 4*l.* per annum to the poor of Grimsby.

There is also a contemporary extract from this will, enclosed with a letter to the Mayor from the testator's nephew, W. Fotherby, dated 14 Feb. 1645.

1638, June 27.—Office copy will of Anthony Acham of Holborne, co. Middlesex, gent., whereby he charged the manor and advowson of Asterby, and lands there and at Goulceby and Randby, with various annuities payable to the poor of St. Andrew's Holborn, St. Bride's

Fleet Street, Asterby, Goulceby, Knaresbrough, Lincoln, Stamford, Louth, Grimsby, Nottingham, Northampton, and Grantham.
Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 9 June 1642.

1718, July 28.—Deed of Jane Dymoke, widow of the Hon. Charles Dymoke of Scrivelsby, esq., deceased, and only daughter and heiress of Robert Snowden, gent., and Dorothy his wife, deceased, which Dorothy was formerly widow of George Acham, gent., deceased; whereby, after reciting the will of the said Anthony Acham, the title, that the lands descended to his brother Geo. Acham, and a suit against the said Charles Dymoke, she confirms the said charities.

1658, Aug. 13.—Deed of William Thorold of Cuxwold, gent., granting to the Corporation, for binding poor boys apprentices, a rent-charge out of lands at Scartho, of which the deed recites the descent by the custom of Borough English.

Ordinances of the Borough.

(Box I.)

6 Hen. VII., Jan. 8 [1491].—Be it known and had in mynd that William Vicars, beyng the Mayer of the Burgh of Grymesby, and his Comburges underwrytten, for the gude rewyll, governaunce, and savying of conscience, pleasur of allmyghty God, and for mayntenyng of the said Kynges Burgh and the Inhabitantez therein, hase be gude deliberacion and a sadd councell and wysements of the seid Mayer and his Comburges; that is to say, Peyrs de le See, William Lylburn, Stephan del See, Hugh Edon, Thomas Bell, John Awnger, John Cuke, James Beverley, Thomas Asseby, Robert Smyth, John Empryngham, John Wryght, Cuthbart Wytton, William Peveryll, John Sheryff, Herry Benyngworth, John Gayton, John Forman, Thomas Benyngworth, Herry de le See, John Fraunkesh, William Rosse, John Cowhop, John Awldwyn, Robert Swalowe, John Benman, and Richerd Beteneve, William Forman, Stephan Hatclyff, William Ogle, Robert Walker, Stephan Palmer, Thomas Williamson, Thomas Symkynson, Ranold Peter, Adam Carlton, William Glasyner, and Andrew Bell, Laurence Johnson, John Whytley, Robert Archer, William Awldwyn, Alexander de le See, John Burton, Jacob Dynewell, Henry Drowry, Thomas Watson, Thomas Myffyn; by a hole assent has stabled, ordand, and sworne of the Hooly Mesbuke and the holy Canone w^{t} the holy crucifix w^{t} the figure of our Savyor Jhē therupon to theis artekyls folowyg, that is to say:

That thei shall be redy w^{t}owtyn fere or drede of any man in any degre to resort to ther Mayer for the tyme beyng to mayntene him and his successors in all the poyntys and articculs contened in the Charters graunted by the Kyng and his noble progenitorys, and in the Burges othe, viz., ther shall no man provoke nor styrr to chose in Mayor nor Baylyff from the day of the makyng of this presence but such as kan be thoght shall be most proper profetable in kepyng of good rewyll and governaunce for the said Burgh and the Inhabitance be the Eleccion and wyll of the most parte of votes of the said Comburges.

Item, if ther happen any variance among the said Burges, than it is agrede that ther shall iiij Burges of the forsaid Burgesses be apoynted and indeferently chosyn to agre theym, and to seke none other mayntenance but ther Mayor, as it is more playnly contenyd in ther Burges oth.

Item, if ther be any man of any degre that will vex, truble, bynder, or do wrong to any of the seid Burges or inaubentez w^{t}in the said

town, that then evere ylke one of the said Burges and all ther retenures that one or all may mayke shall be redy in ther best array fensable to wthstand all such mysdoers, and to mayntayne the Mayer, the Kinges Burgh and Fraunches.

And evere sworn Burges shalbe redy to cum and compleyn to ther Mayer of all such defauts as has bene moved and done, and inespeciall by John Myssynden, his breder, and his servauntes, and of eny gentilman or yoman that has done wrong or shall do to the said Kynges Burgh and the privelege and ryghte.

And all the articles befor rehersyd shalbe kept of evere manes by half befor rehersyd, and to be redy wth body and his guds to mayntene and performe the premesys evere man syngularly by hymself befor rehersyd bynds hym in xl^{li} sterlyng, to forfett if any of the said Burges discover or puplysh the seid articles to eny person butte the seid Burges w^{t}out the assent of theym all; or if any of theme all be intreted the contrary be any person of any degre, he or they so doyng or trespassyng agayn the seid articles shall run in the contempt and forfet xl^{li} to o^{r} soveraign Lord Herry the vij^{t}, to his Chaunceler of Yngland, the parson of Saynt Marysse of Grymesby beforesaid, and to the vicar of Saynt James of the same, to the byhove of mayntenyng of the ij parish kyrkes of Grymesby befor said and devyne servise, als of[t] as it may be praisd of hym or them.

In witnesse whereof the forsaid William Vicars, Mayer, w^{t} all his Comburges befor rehersyd, to this presence has sette ther seales. Geven at Grete Grymesby, the viij day of January, in the yere of the reign of Kyng Herry the vij^{ti} vj^{to}.

Bond of same date from William Vicars, Mayor, and 27 of the Burgesses to the King and his Chancellor for the time being, the Rector of St. Mary's, and the Vicar of St. James's, in 40*l.*, conditioned for performance of the said ordinances. On vellum. A portion of the Mayor's seal remains. Endorsed: Bond for performing of orders and letters of the Earle of Westmoreland. Also: Artikles maid in the time of W^{m} Vickers maio^{r} wch. we are bound to observe by o^{r} ould ordinance.

There is a copy of these ordinances, &c. at fo. 57^{a} of the earliest Court Book.

14 Hen. VI., Oct. 3 [1435].—Ordinances commencing, "In the laude and joy of oure Lord Jhũ Crist, and of the most holy moder and vyrgyne oure lady seynt Mary, and all the holy celestyns of heven, to the releve and sustentacion of the kynge burgh of Grymesby," &c.

These ordinances have been published in a little book on the town of Grimsby, by Robert Walker, printed at Grimsby, by and for the Author, in 1833.

The original vellum has been so much injured by the application of galls, probably for the purpose of copying for Walker's Book, that the writing is now all but illegible.

Royal and other Letters.

(Box I.)

Most of these letters are without the date of the year, though it could no doubt be supplied in many cases from internal or other evidence.

Several of the Royal letters relate to the fee-farm rent, which seems always to have been a source of anxiety and trouble to the Corporation,

one of the mayors, according to Madox, having been imprisoned for its nonpayment. The fee-farm rent continues to be paid by the Borough Treasurer down to the present day.

1. *Letters of Kings Henry VII. and Henry VIII., under the signet, to the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby, and others.*

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wel. And for asmoch as we be enformed that certain Inhabitantes of oure town of Grymmesby, not dreding the displeasance of God nor thoffence of us and oure lawes, have made grete attemptatz on riotous wise ageinst oure paix upon the religious persones the Freers Augustines situate in the same oure town, and over this enditing certain of their brethern withoute eny reasonable cause and ageinst alle good conscience, to their unportable charge and cost; with the which demeaning we be gretly displeased, if it so be. Wherefore we, having consideration unto the premisses, and not wolling in eny wise such unlawful entresse to be had in to their place withoute their licence unredressed, wol and charge you, asferforth as in you is, ye see that by noon inhabitant bilonging unto oure said town from hensforth be doon eny such attemptatz ageinst the said religious persones, employing youre diligence and laboure to the discharging of their enditement, to thentent that the forsaid religious men, withoute damage, los of goodes, or bodyly harme, maye quietly attend unto their devine, vertueux, and devoute occupations. And that ye faile not herof, as ye wol avoide oure displeas^{r}. Geven under oure signet, at oure mano^{r} of Grenewiche, the first day of Octobre.

Addressed: To oure trusty and welbeloved the mair and thinhabitantes of oure town of Grymisby.

By the King.

We signifie unto you that we have understanden by piteuse and lamentable compleint . . . . . howe no consideracion nor respect taken unto our letters writen unto you nor . . . . . to surcesse of the grete attemptatz that ye have doon ayenst our lawes . . . . . and certain his brethern, and in especiall ayenst our welbeloved John . . . . . us for the right of their Church by commaundement of the Abbot an . . . . . taken upon you to offende our grace in that behalf, in such wise as . . . . disples^{r} and so . . . . . plesed as ye have geven us grete cause. Wherfore we write unto you . . . . . straitely charging . . . amonges othre thinges to surcesse and leve your handes of such injuries and wrong . . . ye have doon and attempted ayenst the said place contrary to the grauntes of our noble progenitours and of us . . . . . ye on alwise kepe our paix ayenst the said Abbot, his brethern and servantes, and in especialle ayenst the said John Aylesby, so that he may saufly ride and goe for the prouffit of the said place, as his dewete is, and not to be perturbed nor letted by you to sewe unto us for the wele of the said Church. As ye wol answere unto us at your peril. Geven under our signet, at our palais of Westm', the ix day of Nouembre.

Addressed: To the mair, bailiffs, and inhabitantz of oure towne of Grymmysby.

Endorsed: The Kynges letter to the Maire of Grymsby tochyng the Abbot of Wellow.

Decayed.

By the King.

H. R. [Henry VII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele. And where we be credibly enfourmed that there is graunted unto you by oure progenitors diverse privilegies concernyng the good ordre and ruele of oure towne there and thinhabitauntes of the same: we, willing you to enioy almaner yor said priviligies, liberties, and fredomes in as ample maner as it is graunted unto you by our said progenitors, wol and therefore streitly charge you, that, not sparing for eny maner favor or drede, ye take upon you to se that it be duly . . . oceded according to the said graunt and suche constitucions and usages as of olde tyme have been accustumed there. And also that there be no liveryes nor clothyng geven nor worne in or said Towne contrary to or constitucions and ordinaunces provided in that behalve. And if eny persoon or persoons wol attempt to interrupt you in execution thereof, we wol than that ye immediatly thereupon do certifie us of his or their names, to thentent that we may purveie for their lauful punicion in that partie; acertaynyng you that for yor aide and strength in thaccomplisshing thereofe, we shalbe unto you at al tymes herafter right tendre soverain lord. Geven undre oure signet, at or castel of Tutbury, the xxvth day of Octobre.

Addressed: To oure trusty and welbiloved the Maior, Baliffes, and Burgesses of or Towne of Grymmesby.

Endorsed: The Kynges letter frendly written to the Mair and burgesses for the maynteinyng of there . . . . .

By the King.

H. R. [Henry VII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you, lating you wite that it is comen to our knowlege how that certayn cruell and avouable murdres have be late comitted in sundry places in our countie of Lincoln, in the parties of Lyndesey, and noo laufull redresse or punisshement had therin. Wherfor, willing not such detestable offenses to passe unpunisshed, considering the abhomynabilite thereof before the face of God, [we] wol and straitly commaunde you that in alle hast ye doo the said murdrers to be enquired of from tyme to tyme unto they may be founde, and that soo doon, ye see wthoute favor, affeccion, drede or parcialite thoffenders sharply to be punisshed after the straitnesse of our lawes. And that ye faille not to doo yor effectuell diligence herein as ye wol answere bifor God and unto us at your perilles. Geven undre our signet, at or citie of Lincoln, the vth day of Aprill.

Addressed: To our trusty and welbeloved the Justices of or pees in the parties of Lyndesey wtin the countie of Lincoln. For murdres.

By the King. (Copy.)

Trusty and wellbeloved, we grete you wele. And where as the Danys, under pretence of th' amyte we have wt or cossen the King of Denmarke, their souverain lord, robbe and dispoile on the see the servauntes of or cosyns of Fraunce, Spain, of Portingaile, and of other kinges, princes, and commonalyties wt whome we have also liege and peace, and wt ther robberies and pillages doth resort unto or portes and crekes for ther to make ther port saile of the same, and to refrech theme wt victailles and other necessaries: We, hereing daily the grete suytes, clamors, and complaintes made unto us by the lieges of or confiderates forsaid on the oon syde, and the requestes of or propre servauntes, howe

th' entrecours of marchaundis, throughe the pillages of the said Daynes, is gretely lete . . . . . and to our no litle losses in o^{r} Custumes and Subsidies, w^{t} other evidentes inconv[eniences]. . . . . other syde may of equitie observying o^{r} liegues w^{t} the said kinges, princes . . . subjectes of any of our confiderates to robbe or to make war on the othres, and . . . . . ther can no saile be maid nor colour unto pirattes and dispolers upon . . . . . wolle and estraitely commaunde and charge you, that frome hens forth ye give nether help, releve, nor . . . . to any man Dane making war be see, or to any other ther robbing, neither be bying ne bartering of any goodes violently robbed from the lieges nor subjectes of any o^{r} frendes, thof the same subjectes wold assent and desire you so to do; but that ye take the said Daynes wher so ever they com w^{t} any pryses to o^{r} port ther or crekes of the same, and send the capytaines w^{t} ij or iij others of the best of theme up unto us, for to aunswere in that behalfe, ye keping holy and entierly aswell the vassailes and goodes of the takers as of thos that be taken unto the tyme ye shall have thereupon knowlege of o^{r} forther plesour. And over this we woll and charge you that neither to Dane pirate nor to any other pirates or robbers on the see [ye] give any manner vitaile nor other thing behovefull to theme for to make warr in this caas, uppon pain unto hym o^{r} subject that bieth, bartireth, vitailleth, or supporteth any such piller of the see, of restytution of the hole to the parte robbed, and of confiscation unto us of asmoch his propre goodes that bieth, barterith, vitailleth, or supporteth as [the] pillage amounteth unto, w^{t} his body to be commytted to prison, ther to rest for as longe as it shall pleas us. And for the more seurty of theis, cause to have it halwaies openly knowen, and not to be colored; we give and graunte unto the fynder of the said forfato^{r} the moite of o^{r} parte, to have and enjoye the same to hym for euer. Geven under o^{r} signete, at o^{r} manoir of Shene, the xxiij day of May.

Addressed: To the Mair, Custumers, and Comptroller of Hull.

By the King.

H. R. [Henry VII.]

Welbeloved, we grete you wele. And wher as a tenement w^{t} thappertenaunces lyeing w^{t}in that o^{r} towne of Grymesby, late belonging to oon John Cook, otherwise called John a Chambre, and also all his stuf and goodes, of the which, as we perceive, ye made an inventore endented, bilonge justly unto us, by reason of his forfaicture: we late you wit, that we of oure grace especial have geven and graunted the said tenement, stuf, and goodes to o^{r} welbeloved servaunt Nicholas Smyth. Wherfor we wol and charge you to make unto him juste and undilayed deliveraunce of all the said stuf and goodes, and also to geve unto him yo^{r} good and lieful assistence in taking seisin of the said tenement, and in his contynuel possession of the same, as ye tendre oure pleaso^{r}. And these o^{r} letters shalbe yo^{r} witnes in the premisses. Geven under o^{r} signet, at o^{r} Palais of Westm', the last day of Octobre.

Addressed: To our welbeloved the Mair of our towne of Grymsby w^{t}in our countie of Lincoln.

By the King.

H. R. [Henry VII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wel. And soo it is as we be credibly enformed that o^{r} cousin the King of Romayns is commen to Mechlyns, orelles shalbe there; wherefore, as it is saide, our Rebelles take

courage, and doo prate and saye that within this oure Realme be certain persones which wol not long tarye from theym, but goo unto them in hast, upon knowlege of the comming of the [King of] Romayns forsaid; and in asmoche as, be it soo or nat soo as it is befor written, good pollecy adjugeth we shulde provide for the worst: Therfor we wol and charge you that ye have sure and contynuel await uppon almanner of vessailles w^tin yo^r offices, and in especial w^tin the crekes and in othre small rivers hable to passe crayers or botes to the see, that no manner suspect persone be suffred to passe, but that he be attached, and theruppon with the demeanyng and ground of his suspection be saufly sent unto us; and we shal see to youre reasonable cost in that behalve. And therefor faile ye not of the premisses, as ye propose to avoide o^r right grevous displeasour, and the dangier that therupon to you may ensue. Geven undre oure Signet, at our Castel of Windesore, the xxj day of July.

Addressed: To our trusty and welbeloved thofficers of the Towne and Creke of Grymesby.

By the King.

H. R. [Henry VII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele, lating you wit that we been enfourmed that emonges diverses ordonances made by the Maior, Burgeises, and Comonaltie of our towne of Grymesby for the good rule and politique governance of the same, by virtue of such privileges and confirmacions as by oure noble progenitours have been unto thaim graunted and by us confermed, it hath been ordeyned and of longe tyme used and contynued, that for thelleccion yerely of the Maire of oure said Towne . . . . . personnes of the same, such as been Bourgeises and of the Comon Counsail there, and moost suffisant and able, shal name two personnes of thaim self; and therupon the said Comonaltie, after their discrecions, to chose oon of thoos two to bee maire as for the yere folowing; which ordonnances is to us right aggreable. We therfore wol and straitly charge you that from tyme to tyme ye see that the said ordonnances bee observed and kept, if it bee according to the privileges, graunts, confirmacions and usages afore expressed; nat suffring eny personne, of what degree or co[ndicion] soo ever he bee, to doo enything that shuld sowne to the breche therof. And if any personne [or] personnes presume to attempte to the contrarie, that ye doo hym or thaim to be punisshed according to o^r lawes, or elles to certifie us of his or thair names without failing, all . . . drede and parcialitie leyde apart, as ye wil answere unto us and avoid our displeasour. G[even] undre our Signet, at Rippon, the xviij day of August.*

(J. Harpisfeld) ?

Addressed: To our trusty and welbeloved the Coronors, Bailleifs, Comon Counsail, and inhabitaunts of oure towne of Grymesby, and to every of [them].

By the King.

H.R. [Henry VII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele, And bee credibly enfourmed that certain sommes of money of the rentes and revenues of the landes and livelode which apperteyned to the late Erl of Westm^tland and to his son the late Lord Nevil, in your receipt and charge, and

* See a similar letter, also partly defaced, on p. 248.

growen due unto thaym at Whitsontide last passed, and also to the Lady Nevil by reason of hir joinctur, resten yit unpayed; wherupon we wol and desir you, that with al convenient spede and diligence after the sight herof, ye bring or suerly sende al the said sommes of money unto the said Lady Nevil. And astouching such fees and annuities as were graunted hertofor and assigned upon the said landes and livelode appointed unto hir for hir said joinctur, we wol that ye doo spedily levie and gadre the same, and thaym kepe and reteyne in your handes without any payment therof making til ye shal undrestande our furthr' mynde and pleasour in that behalve: Nat failling in th'execution of the premisses as ye wol aunswer therfor as the caas shal require. Geven under our signet, at our Monasterye of Stratford, the furst day of August.

Addressed: To our trusty and welbeloved the Mair of our Town of Grymesby.

By the King. [Henry VII.]

Right trustie and right welbyloved Cousyn, we grete you well. And where as oure noble progenitor Edwarde the Seconde, sometyme Kynge of Englande, gave and graunted amonge other thinges by his letters patentes unto youre auncester Edmonde of Wodestok and to his heyres an annuall rente by the name of Fee Ferme of fiftie poundes, which the Maior and Baillieffes of oure towne of Grymmesby, wythin oure Countie of Lincoln, have by vertue therof custumably payed unto youe and youre auncesters yerely in oure Eschequer, wthin the quindene of Saint Michaell th'archangell: We understande, by credible reporte made unto us, that aswell by reason of there excessive and unportable charge in that behalf, as of the grette desolation and decay that oure sayde towne is now fallen in, and also of the poverties of the sayd Mayor and Baylieffes they be not of power to contynew the payment of the sayde Fee Ferme, but, raither then to be any further charged wyth the same, entende to surrendre and yelde into oure handes all soch liberties and fraunchesies as unto them were heretofore graunted by Henry the Thirde and other oure noble progenitors, Kynges of Englande; which we ne wolde shulde hapne in oure dayes, for, as we understande, yf any soch surrendre sholde be made, the sayde annuitie and fee ferme, wyth the liberties and fraunchises aforsayde, were lyke utterly to cesse and to be of none effecte. Whereupon we entende, aswell for conservation of the same as of the repayre of oure sayde towne, to directe oure letters of Commission unto certayne persons, gevinge them in commaundement to survey oure sayde towne, wyth all the members and commodities thereunto belonginge, and them trulie to extende to a yerely value; of the which surveyaunce and extent, when it shalbe appoynted, ye shall have a reasonable knowledge, to th'intent that ye may conveniently sende soch of youre counsell as it shall lyke youe to be at the same; and according to the sayde extent ye and youre heyres yerely after to be content and payde wythin the sayde quindene in oure sayde Eschequire by the Mayor and Baylyffes there for the tyme being, and they to be discharged of any further payment, but onely after the rate of the sayde extent: praying youe that wyth this direction ye wolde holde youe content and pleased, for if the corporation be ones dissolved and broken, ye can never after have any parte of the sayde fee ferme by vertue of any graunte heretofore made to youe or any of youre sayde auncesters. Geven under oure signet, at oure Palais at Westm', the xth of February.

On parchment. Endorsed: The copie of the Kinges letter to therle of Westmerlande for the discharge of xx^{li} parcell of the Fee Ferme of Grymsby.

A copy of this letter is entered in the earliest Court Book, fo. 59^{b}. The date of the entry preceding it is 2 June 10 Hen. VIII. [1518]; but the date appears to be about 1488 or 1490. Compare entries on pp. 268, 271.

By the King.

Henry R. [Henry VIII.]

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele. And where as oure powr subgiect William Thomlynson hath . . . . . us and oure Counsaill, how that he hath of the graunte of the late Maire and Burgesses of . . . . of Grymmesby their sufficient letters undre the common seel of our said towne the Spitelhouse . . . . . of Saint Mary Magdalene w^{t}out the Barregates there, and procuratorie of the same for . . . . . [? life], as by his said letters, which he shewed unto us and our Counsaill, it may appere . . . . . shewed unto us that you now entende to expelle and put the said William out of the same w^{t}out . . . . . of cause reasonable, contrary to the said graunte, right, and good conscience: We, entending justice indifferently to be ministred unto every o^{r} subgiettes, wol that ye permitte and suffre the said Willm peasibly to enioye the said house as he hertofore hath according to his said graunte w^{t}out any manner of interrupcion to the contrary, onles that ye have any cause reasonable to be shewed before us and oure Counsaill why ye shulde interupte hym of the same; and if ye any suche cause have, then that ye certifie us and o^{r} Counsaill therof, to thentent that we, by thadvis of oure said Counsaill, may so ordre the matier in eschewing of his further suyte and vexaccion. And that ye faille not thus to doo as ye tendre o^{r} pleasure. Geven undre o^{r} signet, at o^{r} Mano^{r} of Grenewich, the xiiijth day of Aprill.

W. Atwater.*

Addressed: To oure trusty and welbiloved the Maire of oure towne of Grymmesby and to the Burgesses of the same.

Very dilapidated; good signature of the King at the top.

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wel. And late you wite, that it hath be do us to understande howe amonge diverse ordinaunces and laudable custumes made by the Maire, Burgeises, and Comonalte of oure towne of Grymesby for the good publique and paissable rieul and gouvernaunce of the same, it is conteined as we . . . enfourm . . . . . for th'ellection of the Maire . . . . . our said towne . . . . . of the same, suche as be of moost habilite and reputacion and of the Comune Consail . . . . . name two personnes of theym selve, and therupon the said Comonalte, after their discrecions, chose oon to be thair Mair as for the yere folowing; the whiche ordinance is to us right agreable. Wherfore we write unto you at this tyme, wolling and straitly charging you that fro tyme to tyme ye se that the said ordinance be observed and kept, not souffering any personne, of what degree or condicion soever he be, to do any thing that might sowne to the breche therof. And yf any personne wol attempt

* He succeeded Cardinal Wolsey as Bishop of Lincoln in 1514.

to do the contrary of this oure commaundement, that ye do hym to be punisshed after oure lawes and custumes of oure said towne. And faille ye not herof as ye wol eschue oure grete displaiser. Geven under oure signet, at our Castel of Leycestre, the last day of Septembre.*

Addressed: To oure trustie and welbeloved the Maire, Coronners, and Juratez of oure towne of Grymesby.

By the King.

Henry R. [Henry VIII.]

Trusty and welbiloved, we grete you well, lating you wit that callyng to o^r remembrance the grete . . . . . idle and sturdy vagaboundes within this o^r Realme, that will by noo gu . . . meane o^r commaunde me . . . . to labo^r and travaill for their lyving, but being roted in idelnes doo wander in all partes, both to the greate perill of o^r good and faithfull subjettes, and to thinderaunce and damage of the pore impoten . . . . sustenaunce and relief is moche diminished by thimportunate beggyng of suche sturdy and idle . . . . . th'entent order may be taken [in] tyme that the weedes over growe not the corne, that is tha . . . . . to mischief and noughtines of lyvyng be not suffred to molest or trouble our good . . . . . which desire to lyve lik true honest men in their degres . . . as o^r pleasure and . . . . comm . . . . is that every of you for yo^r partes shall have good and . . . . nt respect in all . . . . . that o^r statutes for suche vagabundes may be duely put in . . . . quiett and the better repression of suche idle persons a . . . . . ld be noysom and harmfull [to the com]onwealth; we woll and straitely charge and commaund you, that you shall not only cause watches to be duelly kepte every night in all places accustomed w^tin that o^r town from ix of the clocke at night till fyve of the clocke in the mornyng, from the day of the recept hereof or assone as ye can take order for the same, untill the feest of Saint Michaell th' archaungell next ensuyng; but also that you shall take certen direction with every parte of that o^r said towne that shall kepe suche watches, that they shall nightly cause one housholder at the leste of the honestest and best sorte to be presente in theyr watche, to th'entent the same may be the more substancially kepte for the quiet of o^r good subjettes and the repression and punnishment of the worste sorte that seketh . . . hing . . . . . of those that in their degrees lyve after an honest godly fashon. Eftsones therfore . . . . commande . . . . we specially trust you not only to see this o^r pleasur put in due execution, but . . . . . respect and regarde that it may be observed and contynued in all places as is a . . . . . tyme prescribed, as ye woll answer unto us for the contrary. Geven under o^r signet, ... Hampton Court, the xxth day of May.

Addressed: To o^r trustie and welbiloved the Maio^r and his brethern of that o^r towne Grymysbye.

Very dilapidated.

There is only one other royal letter of later date, as follows:—

1606, Jan. 4. Westminster.

Part copy of a letter from the King, addressed to the Sheriffs and Justices of Peace in the Counties of Nottingham, Derby, and Lincoln, the City of Lincoln, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, recommending contributions for the repair of the haven of Grimsby.

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* There is a similar letter, also partly defaced, on p. 246.

Among the royal letters there is a copy on paper of "the charter of Southwold." It is really a writ to all sheriffs, mayors, &c., dated 5 July 18 Hen. [VI. ?], commanding them to permit the men and tenants of the town of Southwold, in the county of Suffolk, which Gilbert de Clare, late Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, held, as appeared by an Inquisition, temp. Hen. III., exemplified by King Henry [IV. ?], the King's grandfather, to be quit from toll, pontage, passage, pickage, pavage, and murage.

2. *Letters of noblemen and others to the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby and others.*

[Before 1459.] Letter of John Viscount Beaumont.

Right trusty and welbeloved, I grete you wel. And forasmuch as it is supposed that there shall now hastily ben a Parlement, which if it so shall be I pray you right hertely, considered that my right trusty and welbeloved servaunt Rauff Chaundeler is like newely to ben maund in yo^r^ town at Grymesby, wherfor of reson he shuld rather shewe his diligence in suche as shall be thought spedefull for the wele of yo^r^ said town thanne sum other straung persone, yt may like you for my sake in yo^r^ eleccion for yo^r^ Burgeises of yo^r^ said town to graunte yo^r^ good will and voys to my said servaunt, to th'entent that he myght be oon of yo^r^ Burgeises to apere for yo^r^ said town in the said Parlement. And such as I may do for you I shall at alle tymes the rather perfourme to my power, as knoweth God, which have you ever in keping. Writen at Eppeworth, the xv day of Decembre.

John viscont
Beaumont.*

Addressed: To my right trusty and welbeloved the Mayer and Bailyfs of Grymesby be this delivered.

[1454–71.] Letter of William Skipwyth.

Worchipffull and welbeloved brother, I recommand me on to yow. And for as mysche as y am enformed that Kyrstoffer Pycate, a tenaunt and a man of myn, haeth don a forfette to the town, the wysche y am fulle sory and ill a pays that any servant of myn schuld do howte that were agaynest yowr . . . of the town other wysse than the law wold [warrant ?]; for y wold prey for to take the mater in to . . . hand, and that it lyke yow for to lette . . . n and other . . . . . he dyd forffet to thesse to men, and lette hym Kirstofer ch[ose] other, and letten theym sette a nende betwyx theym. And as for the forfette that he dyd agayenst the town, whan ye and y mette to gedyr, the end schalbe made in that wysse that ye schall hold yow content. No more y write to yow at this tyme, but God have yow in ys kepyng. Writen at Calthorp, this . . . . day of feverer.

Be youre brother
and frend, William Skipwyth.

Addressed: To the worshipffull and ryght tristy and welbeloved brother and frend Hew Edon, mayre of Gremysby.†

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* Apparently the Lord Beaumont who was killed at Battle of Northampton in 1459.

† Hugh Edon was mayor in 1454, 1462, and 1471.

[1474–80.] Letter of Dame Alice Rotherham.

Ryght worschypfwll Syr, I commende me unto yow and to all yowre bredyr hertely with all my herte, dyshyryng to here off yowre wellffare, prayng yowre maysterschyppe of yowre scharyte that ye be gwd frende and wel wylher to the pwre hows of nownys of Grymysby off syche serten dwtys os you can infwrme yow off; fore qwhy, me semys that thay fawle into the generall sentens that wit howldys holy schyrche dwte, of that qwhyche it is possesste in of holde tyme, and all that consentys yerto or swpportys the wroyng; qwhare fore I pray yowe to supporte them in thare ryght and to be fawerhabwll wnto tham, os my trwste is in yow, and os ye wyll that I do honythyng fore yow in tyme to cum; and also I schall pray my Lorde my swne to be gwd lord to yow in any matter that ye haff to do, os in that that he may do for yow; qwhare fore I pray yow tendyrly to remembwr me and thys pwre nownys, yowre pwre beyd women. Nomore at thys tyme, bot grasiows god haffe yow in hys mersyffwll kyppyng. Wrytyn at Nettylam, the iij day of Awgwst.

Be dame Alys Rothera'
moder to my lorde schansler.*

Addressed: To the worschyppfwll Mare of Grymsby and to hys bredyr be thys deliverde.

[c. 1487.] Letter of John Saynton.

Ryght worshipfull and w^t all my hert enterly belovyd maystre and frendez, I recomaund me to yow as hertely as I can, praying you to gyff faithfull credence to my fellow and frend Thomas Broghton, youre neghpur, the brynger heroff, in all suche thyngez as he will say to you on my behalff, as touchyng such . . . . . passid in the Parlement, and for the worship and wele off yo^r toune for yo^r franchez. Written at London, the xvj day of June.

Yo^r own man and
frend, John Saynton.

Addressed: To the ryght worshipfull and my full gode maysters & frendez, the Mayre off the toune of Grymesby, and all the inhabitaunce of the same.

[ ] Letter of Ralph Earl of Westmorland.

Right trusty and intierly welbeloved, we grete you ofte tymes well, no doubting but [it] is in your freshe remembraunce how that in relieving and helping of you and al othre inhabitantes of the towne of Grymesby we, at the instance of the King o^r soverein lord, as long as it shall plese us, pardoned unto you yerly of our duetee x^li. And also we, of our owne fre will, for the love and favour that we alway bar and yit ber unto you, having compassion and pite of the povertee that ye alleged at that tyme, at our wil put in respite yerly x^li, to th'entent that of the remanent of our said dutes furth w^tall we shuld w^tout delay be redily paied when we sent therfor. Yit all this notw^tstanding, we but late sent unto you as for a knawn persone our servaunt John Kemp for the remanent of o^r said duetee, to whome ye made delais and caused hym to tary therefor, likly as he had asked our hole duetee. We therfor let you plainly witte, that if ye at eny tyme heraftre enstraunge you to make

* *Schansler* no doubt means *Chancellor*, namely, Thomas Rotherham, Bishop of Lincoln, 1472–1480; he became Chancellor in 1474.

redy payment unto suche persone or persones as we send therefor, bringing therof to you a sufficient acquitaunce, we shall frome thens furth araise upon you our hole duetee, wt suche processe if nede be as the lawe will geve us in that bihalf. Writen undre our signet, at our Castell of Raby, the xxv day of Octobre.

Rauf erl of Westmerland
and lord Neville.*

Addressed: To our Right trusty and intierly welbeloved the Maire and Burgeis of the towne of Grymesby.

[ ] Letter of Ralph Earl of Westmorland.

Right welbeloved, I recommaunde me unto yowe. And whereas I understonde that youre towne of Grymesbye must send up to the Parliament two Burgessis of the same, wheche if ye do so wolle be to you no littill charge in susteanyng ther costis and expensis; wherefor, aswell for the welle of youre seid towne as other speciall causys, I advise and hartely requyre you to send unto my hondes youre wrytte directed for the electionne of the seid Burgessis, wheche I shall cause to be substauncially retoorned, and appoynt ij of my counsale to be Burgessis for youre seid towne, who shall not only regarde and set forward the welle of the same in suche causis, if ye have any, as ye shall advertise me and theym upon, but also dymmynysshe yor chargis of olde tyme conswete and used for the sustentacioune of there seid costes. And in this doyng ye shall shewe unto me a singuler pleasure, and unto yor selffis convenient proffit; wherof I efftsons hartely requyre yowe not to faile as ye intend to have my goode wylle and favor in lyke maner shewed accordingly. Thus hartely fare ye welle. At my Castell of Brauncepath, this xvjth day of September.

Yowrs assured
Rauff Westmorland.

[ ] A hastily written letter [to the Earl of Westmorland ?], without date.

Pleas it yor gode Lordchip to know that ther hath beyn wt me dyvers of the inabetantes of the town of Grymsby from the Mayr, desyryng me to writ to yow, besekyng yow to be to them good lorde in helpyng of them to ther discharge owt of the Kynges Exchekir for soche mony as thei pay to yor Lordchip as parcel of ther ferme, wer of thei can in no wis be discharged wt owt the especial helpe and favor of yor gode Lordchip; and yt it wol ples yow to writ to sum of yor councel at London to helpe them to the same. My Lorde, pety it wer but thei sholde hafe helpe theirin, for the lak ther of pittes many folkes in dreid to com and inabit ther wtin the same towne, wiche shal be gretly to the decay of the same, as divers of the said inabitans, berers heirof, wol shew to yor good Lordchip. And thus almyghty God preserve [you].

No signature, the lower part of the paper having been cut off, perhaps for the sake of the autograph.

[1520 ?] Sept. 27 [12 ?] Hen. VIII.

Sir Thomas Darcy, knight, Lord Darcy, "who married Edith relict of Sir Ralph Nevyll, knight, son and heir apparent of Ralph Nevyll, late

* Cf. a receipt from an Earl bearing this description dated 1st Oct. 4 Edw. IV. [1464], in one of the Court Books, further on. Also a letter therein, apparently of the same period.

Earl of Westmorland," acknowledges the receipt from John Fotherby and Patrick Annesley, bailiffs of Grymesby, of 30*l.* fee-farm rent, viz., 15*l.* for Easter 10 Hen. VIII., and 15*l.* for Michaelmas 11 Hen. VIII. Signed, T. Darci. Seal gone.

[ ] Letter of Thomas Gryce.

I. H. S.

Ryght trusty frendes, aft^r^ hertyst manner I recommend me unto yow. And so hit is that my Lord Darcy hath send this berer John Halyle unto yow, dysseryng yow to do so moch for hys Lordshyp att the tyme as to levy and gedder his renttes & fermes of Grymsby & Beysby dew to his Lordshyp att Ester last past ther, and the same to delyver unto the same John Halyle, and suerly his Lordshyp weill deserve yo^r^ payns therfor w^th^ thankes, as know^th^ our Lord God, who kep yow in gud helth. Scribylyd att Templehirst, this iiij^th^ day of Aprill. I pray yow geve further credance to this berer.

Yo^r^ luffyng frend to his power,
Thomas Gryce.

Addressed: To myn old frendes & luffers Rob^t^ Stevenson & Richerd [Roch ?] and every of thame be this delivered.

[ ] Letter from John Lude (?) of the King's Exchequer, to the Mayor of Grimsby.

Says that the town stands in arrear in the Exchequer, for which process should have gone out last term, "as Catelyn can shew you," but that he had paid 2*s.* out of his own purse to stay it. Begs that the Bailiffs will bring the quittance from my Lord Darcy. The writer has been 10 years attorney for the town, but for four years has had no fees. "Wherefor I pray you to move my masters your brethren that I may be somewhat recompensed therefor as reason wold."

[ ] March 15. "From the Kinges Hono^r^ of Hulle." Letter from Mychaell Stanhope to the Mayor and Bailiffs of Grimsby.

States that the bearer, Anthony Fitzherberd, stands under arrest at the suit of S^r^ Gey Gikell, priest, for 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and for 16 quarters of corn, which came from Waltham, most of it from Mr. Robert Skerne's ground, of whom he hired it. Last year "I was labored unto by my cosayne John Babyngton, whow sent me a letter desieryng me by the same to spare endyferently the corne that was at the parsonage of Waltham, for that the parson, Mr. John Fitzherberd, one of the Kynges majesties chaplenys, had wryte hym a letter decclaryng by the same that he had lette the sayd parsonage of Waltham to ferme unto the sayd Antony Fitzherberd. For further declaracion to veryfy the truthe, this Fitzherberd was forsed to obtayne a letter from the Kinges Counsayll to William Ustwayt of Waltham, that dwelt in the sayd parsonage, for to expulce hym forth therof." The parson of Waltham is uncle to the bearer, and also agreed to let him the parsonage farm, so that he thought his uncle would rather blame the priest, S^r^ Gey Gekell, than maintain him therein, and thus he is now destitute not only of counsel but also of witnesses, &c.

[1545], January 4. London.

Letter from "yours as yett unaqwaintyd, Richard Goodrick," to the Mayor of Grimsby and his brethren, thanking them for electing him a Burgess for Parliament, and professing his readiness to serve them without any charge.

[1547 ?] January 14. Lincoln. Letter from George Saintpoll to his loving frende, Rychard Hempryngham, Maior of the Towne of Grymysby.

Has received their letter requiring his advice as to the indictment of a certain prisoner at Grimsby to be tried before him and Mr. Aycue, Mr. Hennage, and others by commission. Can give no direct advice until he sees them. Has to ride to London, but on his return will let them know when he can come. Will see Mr. Chancellor shortly on Mr. Bellow's business.

1552[-3], January 19. From the Court at Grenewich. Letter from E. [Lord] Clynton to the Mayor and Aldermen of Grimsby.

Although the King's writ for election of burgesses has signified his Majesty's pleasure, "yet nevertheless having some specyall knowlege of his highnes desyre to have this Parliament assembled of men furnysshed wt experyance of their owne countreys," &c., the writer advises them to choose expert and discreet burgesses of their own borough as nigh as may be.

[ ], Sunday. Helinge. Letter from Francis Mussynden to "the right worshipfull Mr. Mighell Emperingham, the Quenes Majesties Leifetennaunt of the towne of Grymsbye."

Was yesterday with my father-in-law, Sr Francis Ayscowghe, at Lincoln, and he would desire you to choose for Parliament my uncle, Mr. George Skipwith, and Mr. William Marberye, whom he doth think very fit men for the purpose. I pray you to certify me by the bearer, for I mean to speak with my father-in-law to-morrow. By yor assured friende and coussin.

[1553 ?] Letter from Sir William Skypwith, Sheriff of Lincolnshire, to his friend Mr. John Bellow.

Wishes to send precept for choosing burgesses for Parliament, but "at thys present I have no presydent of the precepts." Desires them to elect on authority of this letter. "As for your woode, I here my Lorde Wyllybe ys a bowt to have all the . . . . werfor I will take some counsell further."

[1554], March 11. Kelsaye. Letter from [Sir] Francis Ayscough to his loving friend Mr. Kingston, Mayor of Grimsby, and his com-burgesses.

Has received from them an indenture sealed with their corporate seal, whereby he perceives that at his request they have elected his cousin, Thomas Hussye, for the Parliament to be held at Oxford 2 April next. Thanks them, and promises that Hussye shall take no burgess fees.*

* This Parliament was held at Oxford on 2 April 1554, but "Thomas Husy, esquire," sat for Grantham, not for Great Grimsby.

[1554], Oct. 19, Philip and Mary. Lincoln.

Letter from Sir Francis Ayscough, Sheriff of Lincolnshire, to the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby. Has received a writ from the King and Queen for election for Parliament at Westminster on 12 Nov. next, and also a letter from the Queen commanding him to admonish the Burgesses to choose an inhabitant of their own town "and of the wysest, grave & catholycke sort, syche as in deyd meyne the trew honor of god wth the prosperyte of the comen welthe."

1555, Oct. 22. Kingston-upon-Hull. Letter from John Thorneton, Mayor, to the Mayor and Aldermen of Grimsby.

Understands that there is one great ship late of Lubeck remaining at their haven, lately brought thither by certain Frenchmen, being pirates. The owners make most earnest suit for its restoration to them, and have obtained letters from the lordes of Lubecke to the King and Queen, and have applied to the Mayor of Hull, thinking it was in his jurisdiction. Asks the assistance of the Mayor and Aldermen of Grimsby.

[1557?], Dec. 3. Lincoln. Letter from Sir Francis Ayscogh to the Mayor and Burgesses.

After harty commendacions, wheras I ame enformed that ther will be a Parliament holden immediatly after Christenmas, wherfor I shall require you at this my request to chuse for one of yo^{r} burgeses X$\tilde{p}$ofer Winch, esquire, who ys a man very mete for the same, being both wise and well-learned, and able fully to dyscharge that offyce. And yf yo^{u} have any thing to do with my Lord of Westmorland, as I suppose you have, he may do as much with him as any man, for he ys of his counsayll. And yf you do chuse him now at my request, the towneship shall have a great treasure of him, and lykewise I fro my parte shalbe glad to do for yo^{u} any thing that lyeth in my power. Thus fare ye well. From Lyncoln, the iij. of Decembre.

Yours, Francis Ayscogh.

I will undertake for him he shall take no fees of yo^{u} for being burgeyse.

[1559,] Jan. 5, 1 Eliz.

Warrant from William Thorold, esq., Sheriff of Lincolnshire, to the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby, for the election of Burgesses for Parliament.

1558[-9], Jan. 8. Ketylbye.

Letter from Sir Robert Tyrwhyt to "the Ryght Worshipfull and my lovyng fryndes Mr. Maior of Grymsby and to the rest of his Brethern."

States that he is requested by his very good lord my Lord Clynton earnestly to require them to commit the nomination of one of the Burgesses for Parliament to his lordship, and my lord will appoint such a gentleman as shall be able very honestly to supply the office and put the town to no charges. "And for my brother Marmaduke, I have stayd hym that he shall make no further sewtt to yow for the same."

1559, July 30. "From my Mannour at Kirkby Morshede."

Letter from [the Earl of] Westmorland to the Mayor and Aldermen of Grimsby, upbraiding them for abusing his forbearance as to the fee-farm rent, "as thoughe the same were clene forgotten," and threatening them unless paid.

1562, Oct. 26. "Frome my Chambre in th' inner Temple."

Letter from Robert Halton to the worshipfull and his very frend Mr. Hempringham, Mayor of Grimsby.

Understands that a Parliament is to be summoned, and asks to be elected one of the Burgesses. Promises various services in return, and to require no expenses, "except you se cause frelye to consyder me wth some smalle pleasure."

1562, Nov. 30. From the Court.

Letter from E. [Lord] Clynton to his very loving friends the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby.

Desires them to elect for Parliament Mr. Edward Tarrat, who is a very discreet gentleman and one ready to further their interests, without putting them to any charge, &c.

1575, Jan. 19. Swynnoppe.

Letter from E. Ayscogh to the worshipfull Mr. Leifetennent of Greate Grimsbye and to the Bayliffes of the same.

Says that the bearer Mr. Underwoode arrested one Thomas Richardsonne of North Cootes for debt, which he acknowledged before the writer, and agreed to pay at a certain date. Certifies that default had been made.

1579, Sept 2. Tatersall Castell.

Letter from [Lord] Clynton to "my frendes Mr. Mayor and the Burgesses of the towne of Great Grymsby."

States that his servant Richard Holmes had complained that he had been disfranchised by the Corporation for serving certain process directed to him out of the Court of Admiralty. Threatens pains and penalties.

1579, Sept. . . . Grimsby.

Copy of a proposed reply to the preceding, signed by 35 Burgesses (Wm. Skailes, who was then mayor, signing amongst the rest, but without any distinction), stating that they rely upon their charters, which they offer to produce.

1599, July 7.

Council letter as to standards of weights and measures, &c., signed John Canterbury, Tho. Egerton, Tho. Buckhurst, Nottingham, Wm. Knowles, Robt. Sishell, Jo. Fortescue, and Jo. Popham, and addressed to all mayors, &c.

[ ], March 27. Ashby.

Letter from Christopher Wray to the Mayor, returning the Charter sent to him. Was afraid it would have to be pleaded, but through the favour of the King's Attorney General, he had procured a "Nill pross." (*sic*), which is a sufficient discharge, and prevents further question. Asks no other recompence than love.

Bill of Costs of Geo. Clayton against the Mayor and Burgesses of Grimsby, as to complaint exhibited to the Lord William Powlett, their late Recorder, of grievances suggested in the management of the Corporation affairs. Some of the items were :—

Abstracting Charters.
Copying and handing in an Address to the King in 1727.
Attending S^r^ Robt. Sutton in London in order to remind him of his promise in contributing to the church.
Journey to Ashby to get documents signed.
Altogether, 36*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*

Deeds.

(Box I.)

S. D.—Ralph de ...ay of Grimesby to Wm. Rayner of same. Witnesses, J. Welbourn, Mayor, and others.

4 Edw. II. 1310. Monday after Assumpt. B.V.M.—Grant by Agnes late the wife of Peter Reyner of Grimsby, to her daughter Anora. Witnesses, William de Gronale, Mayor, and others.

10 Edw. II. 1317. Morrow of SS. Peter and Paul.—Grant by Geoffrey, son of Gilbert de Wyum, rector of St. Mary's Grimsby, to William Baril, burgess of Grimsby, and Dionisia his wife.

1326.—St. Agnes, Virgin.—Grant by Marjory, late the wife of Guy de Wrangel of Grimsby, to Peter de Thorp of the same.

1343. Friday in Easter week.—Peter de Thoreñ of Grymesby grants to Edmund Rayner of same, clerk, two shops on the south of St. James' churchyard. Witnesses : John de Ryby, mayor, Ralph de Ocle and Thomas Heylyng, Bailiffs, John Canon, Simon de Fountenaye, Peter atte See, William de Skyrbek, Dionisius de Wathe, and William Manden.

1352. Sunday, feast of St. Matthias.—Grant by Richard atte See of Grimsby to Peter de Halsham of same.

1374. Sunday after SS. Fabian and Sebastian.—William de Benyngholm and William Marcand of Grymesby, chaplains, grant to Peter de Halsham of same, and Agnes his wife, land in the east field of Grymesby, near Dedemansheuedland. Witnesses : Richard de Aby and Robert Emanson, bailiffs of Grymesby, John de Middeby and Robert Broune, coroners, William de Bolyngton and Robert de Utterby, of Grymesby.

1382. Tuesday after St. Gregory.—Lease from the Mayor and Burgesses to John de Covenham of Grimsby.

12 Ric. II. 1389. Monday, eve of SS. Peter and Paul.—Grant by John Wynde of Boseworth, chaplain, to Sir William Luscy of Grimesby,

chaplain, subject to a rent payable to the Fraternity of the Hospital of St. John.

11 Hen. IV. [1410.] Feast of St. Gregory.—Power of attorney from Robert Lordyng of Grymesby and Marjory his wife to Robert Dawlyn of same to deliver to John de See of Little Cotes and William Lucy of Grimsby, chaplain, seisin of certain land at Grimsby.

13 Hen. IV. [1412.] April 16.—Grant by Robert Lordin and Marjory his wife, of Grimsby, to John de See, son of Peter de See, of Great Cotes, and Sir William Lucy, chaplain.

2 Hen. VI. [1424.] March 4.—Bond by John Pye of Grymesby, mariner, to John Harpour, rector of Scarthow.

9 Hen. VI. 1431. Thursday after Purif. of B.V.M.—Grant by John Barrowe, burgess of Grimsby, to Isabella his wife, of a messuage in Northsanctmarigate, which he had by feoffment of Robert Pyshale of Grimsby, Walter Pyshale of Keleby, and Henry Cowper of Grimsby.

30 Hen. VI. [1451.] Nov. 16.—Power of attorney from Thomas Marflete of Kyngeston on Hull, maryner, to John Carleton of Grymesby, to receive moneys due from William Lyen *alias* Furbether.

11 Edw. IV. [1471.] Sept. 10. — Indenture between Richard, Abbot of Welhowe, beside Grymesby, and the convent of the same, of the one part, and John Sheryff, Maire, and the Balliffs and Burgeses of Grymesby, of the other part. Pursuant to arbitration by Robert Sheffeld, it is agreed that the Abbey shall suspend for 80 years the payment by the Corporation of 11*l.*, part of the fee-farm due to the King, and granted by him to the Abbey; and in consideration thereof, the Corporation shall suspend for a like term the payment of 3*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.* per annum by the Abbey in respect of certain houses, &c. in Grimsby. The Corporation also grant to the Abbey, for the same term, the third part of a marsh called Wulsoo, 6 acres and 1 rood of waste in the East Marsh, near the Haven.

The Abbey seal remains, almost perfect.

Endorsed is a memorandum, dated 24th Sept. 1492, between Sir Richard Humbleton, Abbot, and the Convent of Wellhowe, and William Vicars, Mayor, and the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Grimsby, as to a yearly payment to be made by the Abbey over and above the 3*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.* suspended by the deed.

20 Edw. IV. [1480.] Oct. 15.—Recognisance by Hugh Edon and John Forman, churchwardens of St. Mary's, Grimsby, to Stephen See of Grimsby, gent., in 20*l.*, to abide by the arbitration of Richard, Abbot of Wellow, William Glasyner, mayor of Grimsby, Master Thomas Rome, rector of St. Mary's, John Saynton, recorder of Grimsby, and John Bras, vicar of St. James's, between the said Edon and Forman, and the said See.

1 Edw. V. [1483.] June 20.—Release by Wm. Grethed, burgess of Hertilpole, to Sir John Byrde, canon of Wellow, and Sir John Brasse, vicar of St. John's, Grymsby, administrators of the goods of Richard Manfelde of Gremysby, deceased.

3 Hen. VII. 1487. Sept. . . . .—Lease of premises at Grimsby by the Mayor (William Glasyner) and Burgesses to John Wright for 16 years.

19 Hen. VIII. [1527.] Dec. 1.—Indenture between Bryan Curtis of Great Grymesby, burgess, and Peter Bell, of Skarthow and Elizth his wife, sister and heir to Thomas Kydger, late of Grimsby. Recites that Philip Blesby and Jane his wife, late wife of the said Thomas Kydger, have a rent-charge on all the said Bryan Curtis's land in Weelsby, as jointure of the said Jane. Release.

1 Edw. VI. [1547.] Oct. 23.—Indenture between Andrew Nowell, esq., sheriff of Lincolnshire, and the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Grimsby, as to the election for Parliament of Richard Gouderyk, esq., and John Bellowe, esq.

1 Mary. [1553–4.] Proceedings at the suit of John Watson, son of Richard Watson of Huthom, co. York, against Robert Wryght, burgess of Grimsby, for "slanderously misreporting and calling the said John villayn and knave in Great Grymisby in the church," &c.

1555. June 24.—Power of attorney from Richard Ayscough of Asbye, gent., to Thomas Wyse of Brigsley, to receive a debt due from John Graye of Great Grimsby, bocher.

1586. May 30.—Deed consolidating the Rectory of St. Mary and the Vicarage of St. James in Grimsby; signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Lincoln, George Portmort, mayor, and about 30 burgesses.
A fragment of the Corporate seal remains.

18 James I. [1620.] 20 June.—Counterpart lease for 18 years of Grimsby Ferry, between Grimsby and Hull, by the Mayor and Burgesses to Wm. Hallington of Grimsby, sailer, and Emm Craine, daughter of John Craine, deceased.
The lessees to provide a boat at convenient times for passengers, &c., charging freemen, their wives and children, and their servants on their business, 1*d.*; and foreigners and non-freemen 2*d.* each.
Rent—one good and well-fed brawn, one quarter of good sweete and well-fed ox beef, a bottle of sack, and 20*s.*

15 Chas. I. [1639.] July 30.—Lease by the Mayor (Gervase Holles) and Burgesses to Paul Willer of Grimsby, clerk and burgess, of land adjoining the Vicarage, for 60 years, at 1*s.* rent.

1696. 30 Sept.—Articles of Agreement between Henry Hildyard of Kelsterne, esq., and Christopher Hildyard his son, of the one part, and the Mayor (Robert Alford) and Corporation of Grimsby, of the other part, as to diverting the stream between Great Coates and Little Coates, so as to supply Grimsby with fresh water and improve the Town.

1714. Aug. 21.—George Clayton of Grimsby, gent. (now Mayor) to David Field of Saniehop, esq. Mortgage of 120 acres in West Marshes. Satisfaction endorsed.

Inquisitions and Depositions, &c.

(Box I.)

15 Edw. III. April 7 [1341].—Inquisition *ad quod damnum*, taken at Grimsby by the oath of Robert Maundavyle of Belesby, and others. An imperfect copy, found amongst fragments of old Court Books. "Ex Bundello Escaet' de Anno 15° regni Regis Ed. 3."

[23 Eliz. 1581.]—Proceedings in a suit between the Mayor (William Scales) and Burgesses, Plaintiffs, and George Heneage, esq., Luke Sutcliffe, Adam Sutcliffe, Salamon Sutcliffe, and John Sutcliffe, Defendants.

The Bill states that Wellow Abbey anciently possessed a rent of 11*l.* out of the fee-farm of the town, and by indenture dated 10 Sept. 11 Edw. IV. [1471] granted the same to the Mayor (John Sheriffe) and Burgesses of Grimsby for 80 years; and in return the Corporation granted certain lands to the Abbey for the same term. The Abbey was suppressed about 28 Hen. VIII., and its possessions granted by the King to Sir Thomas Heneage and Dame Katherine his wife, and his issue in tail male, with remainder to John Heneage. The said Thomas having no male issue, the premises descended to George Heneage, esq., son and heir of the said John. The Defendants have entered on the premises belonging to the Corporation.

(Box II.)

23 Eliz. [1581.]—Interrogatories and Depositions in the same suit.

Depositions taken at Louth, 5 Sept. 23 Eliz., before Andrew Gedney, William Metham, Robert Saunderson, and George Pormort, esquires.

The witnesses are: Robert Fotherby, æt. 47; Christr. Hatcliff, æt. 57; William Rose, æt. 55; Richard Cooke, æt. 63 (all burgesses of Grimsby); Robert Empringham of Grimsby, gent. and alderman, æt. 34; John Sandall of Grimsby, tiler, æt. 67, sometime servant to the Abbot of Wellowe; William Sutton of Clee, husbandman, æt. 54; John West of Cleethorpp, husbandman, æt. 60; Richard Wells, æt. 60, and James Lavorack, æt. 80, both of Clee, fish drivers.

Depositions taken at Grimsby before same Commissioners, 22 March, 23 Eliz.

Hector Wentworthe of Clee, gent., æt. 50, says about four years ago he received from Mrs. Hatcliff, now or late wife of Mr. Stoke, late of Camberwell, co. Surrey, a lease from the Mayor (John Sheriffe), Bailiffs, and Burgesses of Grimsby to the Abbot and Convent of Wellowe of a marsh called Wolso; and he delivered the same to Mr. Paton (late belonging to Sir Walter Mildmay, knt.) to procure for himself and this deponent certain arrearages amounting to 200*l.* supposed to be due to Her Majesty.

Robert Fotherbie, æt. 47, says that when a child be heard Richard Hempringham, gent., then æt. about 60, mention certain bounds in perambulations.

William Lusbie, of Grimsby, burgess, æt. 70, also remembers this about 36 years ago.

Depositions taken in London, 28 June, 22 Eliz.

Christr. Payton of London, gent., æt. 34, says he was privy to the exhibiting of an Information by the Attorney-General as to a rent of 11*l.* a year, formerly of Wellow Abbey, and detained by Hector Wentworth, gent.

Hector Wentworth says that about five years ago Richard Themelbye of Grimsby, gent., delivered to him the seal of the late dissolved Abbey of Wellow, and that last summer or the summer before he sent the same to Mr. George Hennage by one of his servants.

The following also give evidence:—Richard Curtis, æt. 66; Richard Wallys of Clee, æt. 60; Robert Andesley, now Mayor of Grimsby, æt. 74.

Annexed to the proceedings is a plan or map of Grimsby, showing the lands in dispute.

4 James I. April 11 [1606].—Inquisition by commission from the Court of Exchequer as to the extent and value, &c. of the East and West Marshes and Fitties, and as to a few private individuals having occupied same under colour of a grant of 15 Edw. III.

10 James I., September 10 [1612].—Depositions taken at Grimsby before Wm. Reading, esq., Rd. Rossiter, esq., Thos. Bard, esq., Thos. Curteis, gent., and Thos. Danbye, gent. by commission from the Court of Exchequer in a cause between Sir Chas. Egerton, on behalf of the King, and the Corporation, as to the East and West Marshes and Fitties. The witnesses are:—Michael Spencer, gent., æt. 50; Robt. Husthwayte of Grimsby, gent., æt. 78; Wm. Kelke, gent., æt. 55; Barnard Colton of Grimsby, gent., æt. 72; Rob. Hudson, æt. 60; Hy. Neave of Cleethorpes, yeoman, æt. 66; John Fotherbie of Gt. Coates, yeoman, æt. 70; Edward Barnistone [Barnardiston] of Great Coates, gent., æt. 60; Michael Dynis of Great Coates, husbandman, æt. 76; John Brasebridge of Bradley, labourer, who has known Grimsby 50 years.

The witnesses give evidence as to the Marshes, leases of same, overflowing of the sea, charters, &c.

Depositions taken at Binbrook in the same cause:—

William Hansard of Grainthorpe, gent., æt. 41; and John Sutcliff of Grimsby, gent., æt. 46.

Memorandum endorsed as to evidences taken to the Assizes at Lincoln, 9 July 1621, by Mr. Lyon Kirke, Mayor.

1624, Jan. 4.—Depositions taken at Grimsby before Michael Emerson, gent., Wm. Marshall, gent., Robert Manby, gent., and Anthony Smyth, gent., by commission from the Court of Exchequer, in a cause between the Corporation and Hustwaite Wright, gent., for the recovery of outrents payable out of lands at Bradley.

Laurence Draper of Would Newton, yeoman, æt. 70, says Grimsby is an ancient haven towne, and he hath known it 50 years, but it is not so populous nor so much frequented by merchants and mariners as heretofore it hath been. He knows Bradley; there are two manors there, one of which was anciently called Lord Wells' manor, the other was sometime one Hustwood's manor. Defendant is in possession of both, but Mr. Pelham claims part of Lord Wells' manor.

The other landowners at Bradley are John Draper, deponent, John Jeckhill . . . Tatam, widow, Trinity College, Cambridge, and Sir Christopher Hilliard, knt.

Lord Wells' Manor place, containing 3 acres, adjoins Horner or Pinfould Lane.

Ozias (also written Josias) Draper of Leyborne, yeoman, æt. 56.

Edward Atkinson of Theddlethorpe, gent., æt. 59, says there were two manors; one Lord Wells' and the other called Tunstall's Manor, which came to one Ustward, whose daughter and heir married James Wright, Defendant's father. Deponent became a freeman about 36 years ago.

Thomas Scofield of Scarthoe, husbandman, æt. 60.

John Dalton of Barnaby, yeoman, æt. 86.

John Kirton of Grimsby, gent., æt. 54.

The said Laurence Draper says that there were two messuages belonging to Lord Wells' Manor, one called the Lordshippe, now decayed. Has heard that the Mayor and Burgesses had the privilege of hunting a boar yearly on Holy Rood day in Bradley Woods.

James Curtes of Grimsby, gent., æt. 55, has known Grimsby about 45 years.

1637.—Bill, &c., in a suit commenced by Trinity House, Hull, as to Lodenage or Lowage, and Primage or Stowage, viz., 3*d.* per ton of wine,

oil, fish, or other merchandise brought into the Port of Grimsby, claiming that Grimsby was dependent on Hull. Grimsby claims to be older than Hull as a port, and disclaims dependence.

Extent Books and Miscellaneous Documents.

(Box I.)

18 Ric. II. [1394–5.]—The Chamberlains' Account Roll.

There are many more of these Rolls in Box XI.

6 Hen. VII. Dec. 3 [1490].—Contemporary copy of a Royal Commission to John Viscount Wels, Sir Thomas Burgh, Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam, Sir William Tirwhyt, and Sir Robert Dymmok, knights, Robert Sheffeld, Andrew Dymmok, and John Hennege, to enquire into the particulars and amount of the quitrents, &c. payable out of Grimsby, Clee, Bradley, and Swallow, on account of the alleged poverty and desolation of the Borough.

7 Hen. VII. [1491–2.]—Bailiffs' Extent Book. A folio parchment book of 14 pages, containing an account of the outrents payable to the Corporation, and the houses and lands on which they were charged, as returned by the Commissioners, Sir William Tirwhit and John Hennage.

35 Hen. VIII. Oct. 9 [1543].—Extent or Rent-roll of Grimsby. A paper book stitched in an old parchment MS. cover.

(There are several 18th century Rent-rolls in Box XI.)

24 Eliz. May 28 [1582].—Exemplification of a decree in the Court of Exchequer in a cause between the Corporation and Mr. George Heneage as to lands of the late dissolved Abbey of Wellow. Great Seal, nearly perfect.

13 James I. [1615].—Exemplification of verdict and judgment for recovery of the East and West Marshes and Fitties. The Charter of 24 April 15 Edw. III. is recited for the Corporation's grant of same.

34 Eliz. Sept. 4 [1592].—Commission of gaol delivery to William Kelke, mayor, William Willoughbie, esq., Sir Geo. Henneage, knt., Sir Geo. St. Poole, knt., William Wraye, Edward Morison, recorder, Edward Skipwith, esq., Christopher Hatcliffe, Richard Cooke, John Hatcliffe, Christopher Harrington, Richard Thimblebye, and John Kingston, aldermen. Most of the Great Seal remains.

40 Eliz. July 3 [1598].—A similar commission.

Court Rolls.

(Box II.)

These include Mayor's Court Rolls proper (apparently the predecessors of, and in part contemporaneous with, the Court Books), Plea Rolls, Hustings and Great Court Rolls, and Views of Frankpledge for Grimsby, Clee, and Swallow.

They are for the most part in a state of great disorder, partly no doubt owing to their being written on paper, which has become dilapidated. An exception to this is a large roll dated from 14 Ric. II. to 3 Hen. IV., which is written on parchment, and to which a petition

of the City of Lincoln, transcribed below, is attached as the first skin of the roll.

The earliest Rolls appear to be of the time of Edward III., and there are large numbers of them for the reigns of Ric. II., Hen. IV., V., and VI., Edw. IV., Hen. VII., and Hen. VIII.

In the same box there is also a small Court Minute Book of 13 Hen. IV., a bundle of Bailiffs' Account Rolls from temp. Hen. V., several Corporation Labour Account books of the 16th and 17th centuries, several lists of Burgesses, and a Poll of the Burgesses, 23 Oct. 1554, when John Bellow, esq., and Thomas Constable, alderman, were elected Burgesses for Parliament.

Copy of a Petition of the Citizens of Lincoln, in the time of Richard III., attached to the parchment Roll above mentioned:—

To the Kyng oure leige Lord.

[Humbly shew?] . . . . . unto youre Highnes the Maire, his bredern, and Citezyns of yowr desolate and auncien Cite of Lincoln, that yt wolde please youre benyngn grace to have in youre gracious and full gracious remembrance the grete and long continued desolacion, decaye, ruyn, and importun cherges . . . born and charged upon youre seid Cite . . . . . to growe to the utter . . . . . and destruccion therof, wythoute a reformacion and releve by your piteuous and exuberant grace therin to be purveyd and graunted. Souerayne lege Lorde, the meanez and causes of the seyd decay and dystruccion of youre seyd pore Cite ar conteyned in the bylle hereefter. The releve . . . whereof . . . . youre grace is thoght by the sympull advyce of us the seyd Mayre, hys bredren, and Citezins, youre treue lege men, expedient and behoffull for the grete comfort and amendyng and sustentation of youre seyd Cite. Th'efecte conteyned in thiez articlez then foloyng.

The causez of the ruyne of youre Cite of Lincoln.

. . . . . noble progenitours by theyre letteris patentez graunted to the seyd Cite that noo Merchantez straungers or Esterlyngez northweyz that come into Lincolnshire that broght any marchandise to selle, that they sulde bryng it hole to the seyd Cite, and to selle it in non other towne, upon peyne of forfetor . . . . . tymes they sold, bought, and bartered wythin the seyd Cite with cloth, wherupon was usede grete cloth makyng, and the people putt in occupation, wherby many wonnyng placez were inhabett that is nowe playne felde in lakyng the premissez. And where that the Jewez were in aunciaunt tyme enhabettaunt in the seyd . . . . . rede brought all theyre marchaundyse to be solde as Lumbdn doth at this daie in your Cite of London, and as it nowe schewith that the grettest heidplacez were of theyre beildyngez, as in a boke of your Exchequer of record itt apperith; and now the grete nowmbre of the seyd heidplacez be wasted and dessolate for lakke of inhabytantez, and be . . . voyd groundez.

. . . . . the stapull of woollez of Lincolnshyre, Northampton, Leicestre, and Notingham schires was at Lincoln, and there stapulled, custumyde, and poysed, w^t^ other tollez therto be longyng, to the behoffe and releve of the payment off the fee ferme of the seyd Cite; and therupon no peny growes at thys daie, wich is one (*sic*) of the utterest destruccion and ruyn thereof.

And also the grete mortalite that hath bene here by pestelance and othere sekenez that in concurs of marchandyse is there, for wythin xxx yeres was x or xii notabull marchandys be longyng to the Stapull of Calez dwellyng in thys youre Cite, where nowe is at thys daye natt past thre yong men w^thal ar here abydynge. Here comyth no repayre of lordes ne odur gentylmen, wher thorough that the craftmen and vittelerz ar departied oute of thys youre Cite, and inhabett them in odur placez in thys schyre where more recours of pepull is, as itt daiely apperyth; soo that the stretez where they dwelled ar now voied, and the howsyng down. And so at thys daye yowre seyd legemen and pore inhabytentez in yowre seyd Cite ar yerly chargede to the Cathederall Chyrche of Lincoln in iiij^xx *i.*, be siddez theire acompt and feez in youre Exchequir and odur officies; wiche is unto ij men yerly grete hurt or undoyng, for the Schereffez at thys daye can nott gader toward theire chargez of theire tollez, courtez, finez, and amerciamentez nott to the summe of xx *li.*; and that causeth many men that hath beene brought upp in thys Cite by prentishode, service, or oder wyse, to avoyed and goo forth thereof, and to inhabett theime in oder placez; and there ys nedere craft man ne soiourner that wille come too a bide or dwelle here, for fere of the seyd office; and thus this Cite dissolatez and fallith in grete decaye.

The Relief for the seid Cite.

For the wich grete dececes, desolacions, and lakke of inhabitantez, we the seyd Mayre, his bredren, and Commonalte humble besechez youre Highnez, of youre grete haboundant grace, that ye wolde graunte and gyffe to yo^re seyd Cite of Lyncoln the patronagez of the chirchez of Whassyngburgh, Ledenham, and Fulbek, in your Com' of Lincoln, and Wadyngton, in youre Com' of youre seyd Cite of Lincoln, beyng now of yo^r geft and collacion, that thei myght be appropriated to summe spirituall place conveniently to be a vysed by lerned councell to the use and behoffe of the Cathederall Chirch of Lyncolne, and to remayne for ever in the dyschargynge of parcellez of the seyd chargez and fee ferme yerely issuynge of youre seyd Cite.

Also that ye wolde graunte of yo^r grett grace, that all marchauntez that use or wille a venture over the see, that ar or wilbe wonnynge or abydinge within this yo^r cite, that aventure cloth or any odur marchaundice, that thei might be free of custome paynge both inwarde and outwarde of theire merchaundice . . . iii^d of the *li.*, wolle and felle onely except, and thereof thei to paye the custome and subsidie accordynge to the acte of Parliament theropon made.

And that the Schereffez that here after schalbe and bere office be discharged of any acomptes makynge in the Exchequiere, for be any acompt makynge growyth no profit to yo^r gode grace, bott onely fees of the Exchequier, to our greve and importune yerely vexacion and charges.

Also itt wolde pleese yo^r gode grace that all such lyvelode as was purchasede by ow^r predecessours by the lycene of yow^r noble progenitours, that is to seye, the Manor of Ingham and Cotez, and certayne land and tenementez in the towne of Barkworth in yo^r Com' of Lincoln, wich be nowe kept frome us at this day by S^r Robert Taylboys, knyght, and the heires of Thomas Blount, that yt wolde please yo^r seyd habundant grace that ow^r title in the seyd manor and laundez, and the titlez of the seyd S^r Robert Taylboys and the seyd heires of Thomas Blount, severally, may by yo^r high commandement be called be fore the Lordes of the most discret Councell, theire to be sene, examyned, and

to take finall determinacion, in excheuynge of ferther gret and importune chergez and expenes that myght growe to this yo^{r} pore Cite be the meanez of the sute therefore of the longe processe of yo^{r} lawez.

And that yt would please yo^{r} haboundant grace to graunte to the said Mayre and Commonalte of yo^{r} seyd Cite, in sustentacion and releve thereof, the subsidie of xl*s.* a lb. [on] wolle, yerely to be taken, hadde, and perceyved for such tyme and terme as schalle please yo^{r} Hyghnez and most discrete Councell to graunte, and to lymet to be schipped at yo^{r} portez of Boston or Kyngston uppon Hull, in like wise as was graunted to yo^{r} eid Cite for the relief thereof by Kyng Harry the Sixt, late in dede and nat of right Kyng of Englande.

And where Henry the Sixt, late in dede and nat in right Kynge of England, considerynge the grete poverte of yo^{r} seyd Cite, of his speciall grace by hys letters patent graunted to the forseyd Mayre, Citezins, and inhabitantez of yo^{r} seyd Cite, suburb', and precint therof, to be excempyd, discharged, and aquitede of all and ichon dime and quinzyme, and every parcell therof, from thensforth to be geffen or graunted by auctorite of any Parliament to hym, hys heires, [and] successours kynges of Inglande for the terme of xl^{a} yerez, as in the seyd letters patentes more pl[a]ynely yt apperith; wych yo^{r} moste noble brodere, Kynge Edward the iiijth, tenderly rememberynge the forseyd consideracions, by his letters patentes ratified and confermed the forseyd grauntes to the Mayre, Citezins, and inhabitantez of the seyd cite, suburb', and precint of the same and theire successours, as in hys seyd letters patentes it playnely apperith. Wherefore, soveraigne Lorde, that yt myght please yo^{r} most noble and haboundant grace to have in youre moste pyteuouz remembrance the consideracionz aforseyd, and theruppon to graunte dyscharge and perdone to the Mayre, Citezins, and Comonalte and inhabitantez of yo^{r} seyd pore Cite, suburbes, and schyre of the same, of and upon any dyme and quynzime, and every parcell of thame, to yow, soueraigne Lorde, yo^{r} heirez [and] successours from thys day forth to be grauntede, for tyme and terme of lx yerez next folowynge to enduer; any Acte of Parliament or ordinaunce made or to be made to the contrary not w^{t} staundynge.

And also that yt wolde please yo^{r} gode grace to graunte to the Mayre and Commons of the seyde Cite of Lincoln, that of all wollez that shalbe caried in any tyme hereafter owte of Lincoln shyre over Trente or Humbre, that thay may be brought to the seyd Cite, and there to be poysed at the commyn beame, paynge for every sakke weght to the seyd Mayre and Commyns for poysage iiij^{d}, and to have a certificate under a seale there to be lymitte to what porte or towne it schalbe caryed, upon payne of forfitour of the seyd wolle, the one halffe to yo^{r} grace, the other halffe to be devyded to the Mayre and Commons of the seyd Cite and the . . . . thereof be, by the meanez whereof it is thoght wolde growe other grete profytez to yo^{r} Hyghnez, and grete wele to yow^{r} seyd shyre; wollez that sholde be schipped to the Stapull of Calez onely except.

Sessions Papers, &c.

(Box III.)

This box, also, is in great disorder. Its contents consist chiefly of Presentments and Verdicts at Sessions and Courts leet of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, all crumpled together; but it contains also Bailiff's Account Rolls for 3 Hen. IV., 2 Hen. VI., and 5 & 6 Hen. VIII. Also Views of Frankpledge, *temp.* Eliz., James I., and Charles I.;

Sacrament Certificates for 1684 and following years, and for 1720 (including Insolvent Debtors' papers); and Recognisances and Alehouse bonds, *temp.* Elizabeth.

Court Books.

Box IV.

Court Book, commencing in 1453, and continuing with tolerable regularity for about a hundred years, but containing also enrolments of deeds, wills, and other documents of much later dates. A paper book of 354 folios, bound in the original oak boards and sheepskin.

It commences with a list of the Burgesses in 29 Hen. VI. [1450–1], which, being on the first page, is becoming illegible, and is therefore here transcribed.

Nomina Burgensium existencium in villa de Grymesby anno Regni Regis Henrici sexti vicesimo nono.

Richard Manfeld, Mayor.
John Empyngham.
John Bene.
John Leke.
Roger Barbour.
Henry Beel.
Richard Tomlynson.
John atte Hall.
John Mathewe.
Richard Waltham.
William Gannes.
Richard Asseby.
John Coke.
William Hatclyff.
Henry Est.
Hugh Edon.
John Shirref.
Thomas Hopkynson.
William Graa.
Richard More.
Robert Carlton.
Robert Beverlay.
Bobert Pelton.
John Bayous.
William Copeland.
Alan Tomlynson.
William Smyth.
Thomas Bolyngton.
John Grymesby.
William Edon.
Robert Barkour.
John Swanland.
William Betenef.
William Leveryk.
John Bachiler.
John Dowle.
Stephen Cowyke.
Thomas Smyth, junior.
William Markham.
Henry Laceby.
William Graunt.
Thomas Smyth, senior.
John Skendelby.
William Copeland.
Robert Miles.
Richard atte Hall.
Henry Cotes.
William Wayte.
William Fletchour.
John Parsonson.
William Chapman.
John Tarry (?)
Richard Bramley.
John Bramley.
William Rampton.
Thomas Beel.
Robert Takhill.
Robert Baumburgh.
Henry Pelton.
Rolland Neuton.
Robert Peresson.
John Beel.
William Graunt.
William Graa.
Robert Rooe.
John Gannes.
Robert Horner.
Robert Smyth.
James Cope.
Thomas Whitworth. (fo. 1.)

No date.—Copy deed by John Dene and others (apparently acting for the Corporation) releasing to Grimsby Abbey their claim to land which the Abbey held by gift of Amia de Welesby and William Fitz Drogo and John son of William de Welesby, knights. Witnesses, Thomas Moigne and Richard Chedworth, parson of Swalowe. (fo. 9*b*.)

33 Hen. VI. 1454, Oct. 24.—Copy letter from Robert Bovill, Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, dated at Clerkenwell, as to William Asseby of Grymesby, a tenant of the said Hospital, as of the Preceptory of Wylughton, co. Lincoln. (fo. 10.)

6 Edw. IV. [1466], Aug. 10.—Deed between Thomas Moigne and John Newport, esquires, of the one part, and Robert Bele, son of William Bele, and Josian his wife, and Janet Bele, sometime wife of Thomas Bele, broder of the said Robert, of the other part; reciting that there had been controversy as to messuages, &c., at Grimsby, late of William Bele, parson of Irby, and Moigne and Newport had been appointed arbitrators by Sir Thomas Burgh, knt. The said Robert is to have the said messuages, as devised by will of the said Sir William Bele, parson of Irby, to William Bele, father of the said Robert. (fo. 37[a].)

10 Edw. IV. [1470], July 12.—Richard, Abbot of Wellow, is admitted a Burgess, "for certain causes the Mayor and Burgesses thereunto moving," and does fealty.

21 Edw. IV. [1481], March 20.—Grant by the King's Escheator to Thomas Moigne, John Brasse, vicar of St. James's, and John Byrd, canon of Wellowe, of all the goods of Richard Manfeld *alias* Grethed, late of Grimsby, who in his lifetime was outlawed, and his goods forfeited to the King. (fo. 11[a].)

... Edw. IV. [ ], May 7.—A letter from the Abbot of Whitby, read and allowed. Contents not stated. (fo. 11[b].)

4 Edw. IV. [1464], Oct. 1.—Receipt from Ralph, Earl of Westmorland and Lord de Neville, for 30*l.* in full payment of the fee-farm of 50*l.* a year, over and above 10*l.* parcel of said fee-farm released at the instance of the King. (fo. 14[a].)

14 Edw. IV.—Quitclaim from Margaret, widow of Thomas Duffeld of Grimsby, and Thomas Duffeld and Hugh Duffeld, their sons, to John Kydyer, Thomas Moigne, William Grymesby, and Henry Moigne, as to land in Hoole and Itterby in the parish of Clee, which they had by grant of Thomas Spenser.

21 Edw. IV. [1481], Oct. 9.—John Barbour, cap., does fealty for lands in Grimsby late of Roger Barbour his father. (fo. 21[b].)

22 Edw. IV. [1482], Oct. 8.—Robert Haunserd, John del See, son of Patrick del See, George Haunserd, Stephen del See, and Richard Betenef do fealty as feoffees of lands in Grimsby, late of the said Patrick del See, to the use of Patrick's wife for life, and then of the said John del See.

22 Edw. IV. [1482], April 16.—Alice Dyon, daughter and heir of John Dyon, does fealty for her father's lands in Grimsby, and grants same to her mother Joan Carlton, for life.

20 Edw. IV. [1481].—M[d] that Tyseday, the xxiij[ti] day of Januer' in the 3er of the rane of Kyng Edward the foritt xx[ti], it is confirmed and ordened by W[m] Glasyner, than the Mair . . . . . and by all the Burges of the said town beyne in the Hall the forsade day, that no man nor woman shall be arest for dett w[t]in any sewtwarre or Burges howse of the forsede town, nor for dett, nor for trespass, on thies daies undir written, viz., from Zelle Even that none be runge unto the day aftyr Plugh day, Candelmas day, fastynggangeven, from prime forward, from Schere Thoresday at morne unto the day senyt, all Crose weyke,

the iij holydais in Penticost, Corpus Xp̃i day, Saynt Austyn day, nor none shall pay tolle that day, or Mydsomer Even, nor on Saynt Petir even, from none be runge of Mary Magdelyn, from none be runge nor of hir day ; but yff any do trespas or take any thyng and agrese not w^{t} the parte thai shalbe arest, and schall to the parte at cuv̄abyll tyme than foloyng. (fo. 29^{a}.)

2 Ric. III. [1484], July 26.—M^{d} that the Tyseday, the xxvj day of Juli, the secund ȝer of the rene of Kyng Rychard the therd, yt is ordand and agred by W^{m} Glasyner, than Mair, &c. . . . . that evere Burges of Grimesby of whum any accyon is takyn of any maner of playnt from he answer w^{t} suretis relevid to xij men to wage his Law, he shall fynd suffycyant sewryte to the Baillyes to safe tham harmles agans the plancte, or elles he schall be kepyd so un Iorance [in durance?] for the mater, to the Baillyes be discharged of that accion.

And some further ordinances of a similar nature.

6 Hen. VII.—Andrew Bell of North Shelys in Northumberland, yeoman, admitted a Burgess, and all his sons to be Burgess-born. (fo. 34^{a}.)

6 Hen. VII. [1490], Oct. 5.—It is agreid that if the Erle of Westmorland or his councell, or eny other in theyr name, wyll rayes of the seid John Hempryngham and Stephan Hattlyff [the Bailiffs] for the fee ferme of the seid towne of Grymesby morover then xxx^{ti} *li.* sterlyng for the fee ferme of the seid yere, that then the seid Mayer, Crowners, Baylyffes, and all other Burgesses efter wryten shall surrender oop the sayd towne of Grymesby to the Kynges handes, or els to fynd a better meane for the seid towne in the discharge of the seid Baylyffes more then the sayd somme of xxx^{ti} *li.* And the seid Baylyffes to have all maner of rentes and revenyes that pertenyes to the Kynge, as is specyfied in the Kynges extent, of the seid Baylyffes to distrene, &c. . . . . And the said Baylyffes to discharge the seid towne in the Kynges Exchequer, and of all other charges belongynge to the sayd office, and to delyver their acquietaunce in the Court byfor the Mayer and Burgesses.

Signed by William Vicars, Mayor, and 21 burgesses. (fo. 34^{b}.)

4 Hen. VII. [1489.] Feb. 12. Letter of T. Cheyne (?).—Right welbeloued frendes, I comaunde me to yow. And wher as S^{r} Thomas FitzWilliam, knyght, the Recordo^{r} of London, hathe a yerly fee of v markes graunted of my Lord of Westmorland, by his lettres pattentes, for terme of his lif, of the feferme of the towne of Grymesby, whiche ys behynde unpaid for an hole yer ending at Mighellmes the iiijth yer of the reigne of the King that now ys ; I will and charge yow that ye upon sighte of this writing, ye content and pay to the said S^{r} Thomas, or to suche as he will therto assigne, the said v markes, whiche ys in yo^{re} handes unpaid for the said yer ending at Mighellmes. And so yerly from henc forwerd to content and pay the said S^{r} Thomas his said fee, according to his said lettres patentes, as ye will have my good wille and favor. Any restreynt or comaundement by my said Lord or me hertofore made to the contrary notwithstanding. And this my writing shalbe to yow in that behalfe a sufficyent warant and discharge. Wreten at London, the xijth day of Februare, the iiijth yer of the Reigne of King Henry the vijth.

T. Cheyne.(?)

Addressed: To the Mayre and Bayliffs of the Kinges Towne of Grymesbye. (Sewed to fo. 41.)

17 Edw. IV. [1477], Oct. 8.—Nicholas Halley produced in Court, and desired to be enrolled, a testimonial letter dated 10 Sept. 1477 from S^r^ John Stone, vicar of Earyth, William Miller, John Jurden, Thomas Brunse, Thomas Poleryn, and John Brocke, of the county of Kent, certifying the will of John Mason, "shepman," who died in the parish of Grimsby, and that "one Nicholas Halley hath greid and boght his ship of the awner. The name of the ship is called Thomas of London."

Will of John Mason, "shepman," 20 Feb. 1476[-7]. To be buried where it shall please God. To the high altar of Earyth, for tithes forgotten, 2 wax candles weighing 4 lb. The parish clerk, iiij^d^. The sacrist, ij^d^. Residue of goods to Agnes, his wife, executrix. (fo. 42^b^.)

8 Hen. VII. [1493], May 11.—Deed of Lady Elizabeth Tunstall, widow, daughter and heiress of Sir William Fraunke, knt., and Thomas Tunstall, her son and heir, manumitting Robert Abbot, of Itterby, in the parish of Clee, son of William Abbot, late of the same place, with all his family, as follows:—

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos hoc presens scriptum pervenerit, Nos, domina Elizabetha Tunstall, vidua, et filia et heres Willelmi Fraunke, militis, et Thomas Tunstall, filius et heres dicte domine Elizabethe Tunstall, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noveritis nos, predictos dominam Elizabetham Tunstall et Thomam Tunstall, ex nostra bona et speciali voluntate, omnino pro nobis et heredibus nostris manumisisse ac ab omni . . . . servitute et servicio liberasse Robertum Abbot, de Itterby, in parochia de Clee, filium Willelmi Abbot, nuper de eadem, nativum nostrum, cum tota sequela sua procreata et procreanda, cum omnibus bonis suis et catallis, terris, et tenementis. Et quod idem Robertus Abbot cum tota sua sequela procreata vel procreanda . . . . . et imperpetuum gaudeat libertate sua, non obstante quod dictus Robertus infra feodum nostrum in securitate [servitute?] nostra fuerit oriundus. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti scripto nostro sigilla nostra apposuimus. Datum undecimo die mensis Maij, Anno regni regis Henrici Septimi octavo. (fo. 43^a^.)

22 Edw. IV. [1483], 14 Jan. Memorandum.—M^d^ the Tiseday, xiiij^ti^ day of Januar', A^o^ R. R. E. iiij^ti^ xxij^o^, that William Glasyner, then Mair of Grimesby . . . . . and dyvers odir Burges sold to Steven del See and to dyvers mo iiij ^xx^ esch trese growyng in the Spetyll Garthes of Grimesby for iij^li^ vj^s^ viij^d^, to the expenc' to be made to our Sofferane Lord our Kyng, and to our gode Lord the Erelle of Westmorland, and to his Consell, for the grete necessite and wellefare of the said town. Proviso semper that as sone as the forsaid townchipe may hafe godes in comon for the town, thai schall spend and ware on and for the said Spetyll House at dyvers tymes 5 marcs. (fo. 46^b^.)

No date. Petition of the Mayor, Bailiffs, &c. to [the Earl of Westmorland].—Besechyng mekely youre suppliantez the Maier, Baylies, Burges, and inhabytantez of the Kynges towne of Grymesby, in the shire of Lyncoln, that it please youre gracious Lordeship to understonde that wher thei fynde, by olde remembrance, that the saide towne hath bene of grete worshipp, and inhabyte w^t^ many notable marchandes maryners, and craftes menn to the nowmbr' of lij score housaldes and mo, and all is now so decayde and waysted be infortoun off were and waystyng of the see, wherby the haven is wrekyd and stopped, by the which the resorte of marchandyes is destroyed, and the bygyng gone doun, so that ther is not left within the saide Town xij men of substance that is able to uphold and repare the seide Towne, and upp holde and maynteyn the iij parysh kyrkes, ij howses of freres, an Abbey, and a

house of nonnes w^t in the seide Towne. And also the grettest cause of wastyng theroff has bene gret charge that thei have had of leveinge and paying of a yerly rentt of l *li.* payd to yo^r Lordeshipp, over the charge of xj *li.* that is paid to the said Abbay; the which charge hase pute forth and waisted away the inhabitantez ther was wount to be, and yete dayly it waystes and goys away, and none is lyke ther to abyde; and that is grete pety, and to the Kyng and his heieres of grete hurte in that parte of his Realme, for it has bene a grete strenght and shulde be to all the countre a safe porte and a kay. And also it apperes be old bokes of CC yeres sithen that it was in quired be dyvers inquestes of the seide towne, that it was than in valour of the saide lxj *li.*, and viij *li.* over, that the Kyng gave yerly to the Bailles for the gediryng theroff; for the which charge ther dar no people com therto to inhabit and abyde, with owten yo^r gracious and abundant hynesses remedy in these premesis in tyme passed, havyng consideracion heroff, has yerly abayted theym xx *li.* of yo^r seide l *li.*, the which thei have no certanty off, but att yo^r pleasere; and yett the resydewe is to theym inportunable, and yerly undose ij men that be chosyn Baylefe for the yer. Wherfor ther dar no people cum ther to inhabyt, and so the towne is lyke utterly to go away, w^t owtyn yo^r gracious remedy be had in that behalfe, and blyssed disposycion wold consider howe thatt yo^r saide suppliantez have the seide towne in fe ferm of the Kynge, and yerly yeldys the rent to yo^r seide Lordshipp. Wold it therfor please yo^r noble disposicion for to be agreable to yo^r seide suppliantez to resave of them yerly xx *li.* and no mor, and ther upon youre saide Lordshipp and yo^r heyres yerly to aquyte the saide towne in the Kynges exceheker at London by yo^r aquietance, as ye doo at this day: this to be graunted to yo^r seid suppliantez, ther heires, and their successoures under yo^r grete seall for ever more. Thiese premesis not hade, oure saide towne is utterly distroyed, the which us must nedis shewe to the Kynges gude grace, if so be it may be. And if it pleased yo^r gracious Lordeshipp to remember the premesis, and be agreable to theym, than thei truste to Allmyghty God the Towne shall encresse and inhabett agen, to yo^r grete pleasour, and all the inhabytauntez ther wellyng ever to be bounden to pray to all myghty God for yo^r gude prosperite and longe tyme to endure, to the pleasur of all myghty God, who have yowe in his blyssed kepyng, both body and soull. (fo. 47^a.)

3 Hen. VII. [1488], May 31. Bolyngbrook.—Letter from Thomas Thokheth, esq., feodary of the Duchy of Lancaster within the county of Lincoln, certifying that Thomas Corteys of Clee, as a tenant of the Duchy of Lancaster, was free from all tolls &c. by the King's letters patent. (Sewed to fo. 51.)

3 Hen. VII. [1487], Oct. 2. Memorandum.—M^d the Teusday, the 2nd day of October, &c. witness that William Glasyner, Mayor, John Glasyner, William Forman . . . . . and all the Conburges underwritten conventyd and agrede that if the Erell of Westmorland, or any other in his name, wyll rays of the forseid John Glasyner and William Forman for the fee farm of the said Grymesby more than xxvj^li xiij^s iiij^d, that then the seid Mayor, Coroners, Bailyffs, w^th all the Conburgesses und^r wryten shall surrender the seid town to the Kings hand,* or els to fynd a better mene for the seid town in discharge of the seid Bailyffs; and the seid Baylyffs to have all maner of rents and revenyes, and they to dyscharge the seid town of all other charges belongyng to ther office. Subscribed by 30 burgesses. (fo. 52^a.)

* Cf. the Royal letter on p. 246, and the other agreement on p. 268.

6 Hen. VII. [1490], Aug. 2.—From henceforth no maner of man inhabityng w^t^in the Burgh of Grimsby shall have nor kepe w^t^in hows eny bussell skepp, whych is the iiij^th^ parte of a quarter, to mete w^t^, excepte a cole mesure. And that evere man having a mesure called the London bushell, whych is viij parte of a quarter, that his said London bushell be gude and able accordyng to the standerd, and sealed w^t^ the seall of the said Burgh of Grymesby. And who that doyth the contrary, and be fun gylty thereof, shall forfytt to the said Burgh xij^d^ als oft as any ar fund thereof defectyff. (fo. 55^b^.)

10 Hen. VII.—It is agreed that no person shall be arrested, nor any toll taken, on Wednesday, the market day. (fo. 56^a^.)

7 Hen. VII. [1492], April 10.—It is found that William Glasyner, burgeis, contrary to his Burgeis oath, hath behaved hymself contrary to the Mayor and his Burgesses, whereas he went to William Lilburn, gentilman and burgess, saying thies wordes folowyng: "William, I requer yewe that Maister Myssynden and ye may be at one and frendes as gentilmen, and if it be so hee and ye be frendes and luffers, he setts littill by the Mayer and other his Burges of Grymesby." Notwithstanding, the Mayor and Burgesses, in common Hall, pardon and forgive the said William Glasyner, on condition that he shall from henceforth be of gude and trewe demeanor, &c. (fo. 58^b^.)

13 Hen. VII. [1498], Aug. 4.—James Beverlay, Mayor. John Clement of the City of London, son and heir of William Clement, did fealty for his father's burgage lands and tenements.

The Discent and Petigrewe of the above wryten John Clement.

M^d^ that William Canon, in the yere of O^r^ Lord M^l^ CC and od yeres, had issue lawfully begotten Peter, whych had issue Henry, and this Henry had issue John and Isabell. John died w^t^owte issue, and Isabell toke unto husband Walter Keleby, otherwyse called Stalyngbrought, the whych had issue betwyx tham Robert, whych Robert Keleby had issue Johane, whych Johane toke unto husband John Clement, the whych Johane and John had issue betwix tham William Clement, fader unto the said John Clement. (fo. 61.)

12 Hen. VII. [1497], May 21.—At this Court William Enderby produced, and desired to be enrolled, the will of John Enderby of Grymesby, dated 27 Aug. 1495. To be buried in the churchyard of S^t^ James, Grimsby. To Lincoln Cathedral, xij^d^. High altar and fabric of S^t^ James's church, vj^d^ each. Fabrics of S^t^ Mary's church, S^ts^ Augustine and Olave's church, Welhowe, and churches of S^t^ Leonard's house of Nuns, of the Friars of the order of S^t^ Francis, and of the order of Hermits of Grimsby, vj^d^ each. To my wife Elizabeth, my capital messuage and lands in Staynton in le Hole, and all other my lands elsewhere in co. Lincoln, for her life, with remainder to my right heirs. My elder son John, all my lands in Elvyngton co. York. My younger son John and my son Thomas a cow and 10 sheep each. My daughters Margaret and Sibbell two cows and 10 sheep each. Residue of goods to my wife Elizabeth, executrix. Witnesses: Master John Brasse, vicar of S^t^ James's, Grimsby; John Empryngham, then Mayor of Grimsby; Stephen de la See and James Beverley, then Coroners; James Dynewell and Thomas Symkynson, then Bailiffs. (fo. 62.)

1500, June 11.—Award of Arbitrators between the right worshipful S^r^ Richard Humbleton, Abbot of Welhowe, and S^r^ Robert Smyth, parson of o^r^ Lady church in Grimsby. (fo. 62^b^.)

19 Hen. VII. [1504.] March 6.—Andrew Wodd of Lethe, merchant and maryner, charged by John Hattlyff of Grimsby with refusing to accept payment for merchandise in current money, saying, "This is but oaff." The said John answered and said "It is no oaff; it is the Kyngis mynt currant in Yngland, that I and the Kyngis lege people may not refuse." And the said Andrew answered and said, "And yo^{r} Kynge were here p^{r}sent, I wold not take ther of one peny. I owe hym neither dewte nor servece," &c. (A loose parchment, after fo. 62^{b}.)

[4 Edw. IV., 1464 ?]* Letter of Ralph Earl of Westmorland and Lord Nevill.—To my Right trusty and wele beloved frendes the Maire and Bailefes of the toune of Grymesby.

Right trusty and wele be loved frendes, I grete yowe oftymes wel. And as for my rent of yo^{r} toune of Grymesby, wherein yee have not onely delayed and witholden my paymentes, but of [*i.e.* have] also sewed to Kyng . . . . . intendyng therby to [put ?] me fro the substance of my said rent, thowghe I truste in his gode . . . . that after myn . . . . . services to his highness he wele be content and pleased that I occupye and enjoye myn inheritaunce under his lawe and gracioux supportacion, as wele as eny of his trew and louly subjectes and liegemen within this his reawme; and nat withstaundinge yo^{r} unkyndenes, at the reverence and contemplacion of the Kynges said wryttyng, so that I at this tyme be truly paid and content of the residewe of my said rent, I will for gyve and pardon yowe of my said dewte x^{li} fro this yer. And as from aftre this I will, duerryng my pleasur, yerly do yow such ease and favoure like as I fynde cause and redy payment of my sead rent at my termes and days. And if yee faill of my paymentes atte this tyme, then in defawte I will take next way and meyne to have my sead rentes, as the law will, without ony delaye or favoure, ayther nowe or here aftir. [As] god knowth, who have you on kepynge. Writtyn at my Castell of Brauncepath, the xxiij day of Aprile.

Rawfe Erle of Westmorland and Lord Nevyll.

The following entry is dated 17 July 16 Hen. VII., but the next page 2 Hen. VII. (fo. 71^{a}.)

1344, March 18.—Deed from Edmund de Grymesby, clerk, granting to William de Shropeshire, of Waltham, chaplain, seven shops, 12 acres of land, and 5 acres of pasture in Grimsby which he had by gift of Sir John de Grymesby, rector of Bynteworth, and which were formerly of Gilbert Carter; upon trust to celebrate in S^{t} James's church for the souls of the said Edmund's father and mother, brother and sisters, and all Burgesses of the town, and for the good estate of the said Edmund, "et domini Joh'is Rayner et Willelmi Rayner, fratrum suorum, ac sororum, filiorum, et filiarum, nepotum, et consanguineorum suorum, et Maioris et omnium Burgensium," &c. according to the tenor of letters patent.

Chantry in the nave of Holy Trinity, commonly called Rayner's Chantry. Then follow ordinances. (fo. 74^{b}.)

16 Hen. VII.—Venit Robertus Garyng, qui conduxit in uxorem Margaretam, qui nuper fuit uxor Roberti Swalowe, burgensis hujus Burgi, defuncti . . . . and does fealty, and is admitted a Burgess, for a fine of 6*s.* 8*d.* (fo. 79^{a}.)

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* Cf. the Earl's receipt on p. 267.

17 Hen. VII.—William Buttler, who married Joan, widow of John Whytley, a burgess, is admitted. (fo. 80[a].)

18 Hen. VII.—John Auncell, maryner, who married Joan, widow of Robert Tailor, walker, is admitted. (fo. 80[b].)

19 Hen. VII.—John Shefeld comes and prays that Lady Johan Hyllyerd may be excused from being elected to the office of Bailiff in respect of her lands, &c. Granted for a fine of 20*s*. The Court also grants that Christopher Hillyerd, her son and heir, shall be a burgess born, and likewise Peter and Richard, sons of Peter Hilyerd and the said Lady Johan.

The Court in like manner excused Johan Toynton, widow, from the same office. (fo. 81[a].)

13 Hen. VIII.—It is agreed by hall the Burges beyng in the Hall at that day, that John Atclyff, for unfyttand demener and ill wordes had and donne to Mr. Richard Thymylby, then beynge Maire, and delygenly doynge is offys, shall be obliged ether to set xl days in the Hall, or ever to lose his fredom at this day; and if it forton that ever herafter he trobull ongodely the Maire and the Kynges Cowrt herafter hodurwise than be comys a trewe and fathfull Burges to be hav, it is agreid that the seid John shall be takyn and kast over Barr, and lose is fredom for ever. (fo. 104[a].)

37 Hen. VIII.—It is agreyd that if it chawns Elizabeth Mawyn to marry betwyxt this and Holy Roydd day next ensuyng, that then the seyd man that marryeth the sayd Elizabeth be free burgeys by the sayd monnay that Elizabeth shuld pay, &c. (Loose leaf, after fo. 107.)

It is ordenit that non unfreman shall opten or have the fredom of this Burghe, bot such as will pay to the use of this Burghe xx*s*.; and qhatt Burges procoris or grauntes his mynd the contrari, to pay all such money as he so willith or desireth to be abaittyd. (fo. 125[a].)

6 Hen. VIII.—It is ordeynid that no maner of person dwelling within this Burgage from this day forward shall cume at no tyme into Common Hall to drynke and make revyll with any person which sytts in the said Hall at the commandement of Mr. Maier, except the said Maier licence, &c. (fo. 161[a].)

7 Hen. VIII.—Thomas priour of the monastery of Ormesby comes and binds himself to build "an abull howse" on a holding near the Cros in the Market Stead, belonging to the said place of Ormesby. (fo. 164[a].)

8 Hen. VIII.—It is agreid that Pettir Mason, mair, at anny tym herafter schall hav his fre Liberte in goynge and commynge to and fro his Backhows w[th]out anny Serjeant or Mas befor hym at any tym w[th]in his year of his offic or in goynge and commyng to his next nabor hows; and also Michael his son schall ber the Mas affor hym unto that the said Peter Mason may convenyently get an abyll man to be his Sergeant. (fo. 168[a].)

1499.—It is recorded byfor William Vikers, then Mayer, and all other Burgesses in the Court present, that John Smyth of Staynton, tenaunt in Swallowe, hath graunted to the seid Mayer and burgesses that he shall not resyne his holdynge to eny gentileman nor to none other man whych shall by maistershipp take eny partie agenst the Mayer, Bailyffes, and Burgesses, or theme to put to troble, or w[t]hold all or eny parcell of his rent, [or else] that the said John and his heyres shall forfet his seid holdynge.

7 Eliz. Feb. 12.—Long deed by Silvester Bellow of Newsted, co. Linc., esq., to Hugh Kirsocke of Kingston on Hull, yeoman. (fo. 188a.)

1573, Dec. 8.—Regulations for the Common Ferry to Hull, fixing the fares for burgesses, &c. (fo. 191b.)

1530, Nov. 26.—Will of John Lyttyll of Grett [Grimsby]. To be buried in the churchyard of St. James. To our Lady Church of Lyncoln, xij*d*. The high altar, ij*s*. To Robert Hyll, my wife's second gowne. Thomas Watson's wife, her third gown. My daughter Johan Johnson, xiij*s*. iiij*d*., one brass pot, and two platters. To the Awstyn Freers, to pray for me, iij*s*. iiij*d*. Saint Francis Freers, xij*d*. To Patryck Hanslaye and his wife, my daughter, all my lands in Grimsby, they keeping an obit for 50 years to the value of ij*s*. yearly, to be given to six priests in the church of St. James Grimsby, for singing mass and dirige on St. Martin the Bishop's day, viz., to every priest iiij*d*.; "and the owner of the same tenementes and landes shall cawse the bellman to go abowt the towne to warne all weldysposyd pepull to cum thyther and to pray for all Crysten sawlles." If the said Patrick and his wife fail to carry out this my will, I give my said lands to the Mayor and Burgesses on the same conditions. Residue to said Patrick Hansley, executor. Witnesses: the Prior of the Freers Austyns, Brian Curtas, John Balyff, and William Bond. (fo. 204b.)

8 Eliz. [1566], 30 April, is enrolled the Will of Robert Drowrie of Grimsby, dated 26 Aug. 1562. To be buried in St. James's churchyard, at the west end, beside my wife and other friends. Son-in-law John Hall, a house in North St. Mary's Gate, Grimsby. Daughter Alice, a house on the east of the said house, and at her death to her son Robert Hogge. Son-in-law John Graye, various furniture. Daughters Isabell and Katherine, a chest. Alice Hall, daughter of John Hall, a possenett. Residue to the said John Hall, executor. Witnesses: Christopher Chappell, Paule Hall, and Steven Judgeson. (fo. 210b.)

17 Eliz. [1575], Nov. 9.—It is found by the jury that Agnes Gray, Isabell Marshall, and Katherine Clarke are next heirs of Robert Drowrie as to a house in North St. Marie Gate. (fo. 211a.)

1 Hen. VIII. [1510], Jan. 13.—It is agreed that it shall be lawful for Sir Wm. Tirwhit and Sir Robert Winkfeld to be Burgesses in Parliament for the town, or else to the said Robert with John Hennage, esq., notwithstanding the election; and that Bernard de le See and Philip Myffyn shall go to Maister Tirwhit to Lincoln, to get a bond signed, indemnifying the town against Knights' fees, &c.

Signed by John Empringham, Mayor, and 21 burgesses. (fo. 224a.)

13 Hen. VIII. [1522], Jan. 31.—Deed by William Catterall of Glamforth Briggs and Thomas Werisley and Janet his wife, late wife and executrix of Robert Catterall of Grimsby. The said William Catterall is to have the guardianship of Thomas, Anne, Barbara, and Beatrice, children of the said Robert Catterall. (fo. 227b.)

14 Hen. VIII. [1523], March 19.—John Hennych, junior, gent., and Robert Lorde, of Grimsby, burgess, chosen Burgesses for Parliament, each of them undertaking to bear his own expenses. (fo. 230a.)

Upon Relikque Sonday was William Hatclyff, the son of Stevyn Hatclyffe, prest to go to the Kynges besynes, and he sayd "How schuld I go to the Kynges besynes and leyffe my tytill?" And Mr. Hatclyff sayd to hym this, that he schuld mak William Hatclyffe his son to be for hym and to deliver to hym all the ryght [and] tytyll that he

had as cowld be fon by Mast' Hennech at hys comyng. And so we, Mr. Peter Mason and John Fotherby, with other sertan officers [met ?], and so in owr presens he cam to thre grondes that he mayd tytill un to, and gaff un to William Hatclyff, son of Mr. William Hatclyffe, all the ryght and tytill that schall be fond in hym at the syght of Mr. Hennech, as afor is sayd, to the intent to pay is dettes as the law wyll, yff so be that the law wyll geve me owthe. (fo. 230b.)

6 Hen. VIII. [1514], Sept. 6.—Deed by Wm Hatteclyffe, son and heir of Stephen Hatteclyffe, to John Kyngston, as to lands late of Robert Cattelyn and Alice his wife. (fo. 234b.)

26 Hen. VIII. [1534], Sept. 1.—Regulations for fines payable by persons seeking the freedom of the Borough by birth, marriage with a freeman's widow, or by apprenticeship. (fo. 255b.)

32 Hen. VIII. [1541], March 8, is enrolled the will of Thomas Chalende of Great Grimsby, merchant, dated 3 Jan. 1540[–1]. To be buried in St George Ile in St James's church. Our Lady of Lincoln iiijd, and the altar of same iiijd. High altar of St James's, xijd. My wife Emott, a third of my goods, and the house I dwell in, with my mylln and brew howse, and the howse in Scharthow, &c., for her life. My son Edward all my lands in Grimsby after my wife's death, except a howse bought of Maister Schoppholm, which I give to Jenet my daughter after her mother's death. Son Edward, various sheep, &c. Daughters Emott and Jenet, two sheep each. Sir Peter Mundye, iijs iiijd, to pray for my soul. An obit of vjs viijd to be done for my soul for x years. Residue to wife and daughters Emott and Jenet, executrixes. Oversees, Master Smythe and John Kyngston. To St James's church work, vjs viijd. Witnesses, Master Cooke, Symon Semar, and Sr Wylliam Grege. (fo. 265b.)

No date (previous entry 33 Hen. VIII.)—For Grymesby to pay. The Charter cost—

Item for the seale - - - -	xxs iiijd
Item for the velom skynne - - -	xijd
Item for the lace and to the sealer - -	ijs
Item for the two maistres of the Chauncerye for examinacon therof - - - -	vijs
Item for the enrollyng - - - -	xxs
Item for the wrytyng - - - -	xxvjs viiijd
Item for the fyne of the said confirmacon -	xs
Summa totalis -	vli ixs

The holle charge to conferm this charter. The cost of the man expens wt charge xxjs. (Loose paper, at fo. 272.)

1549, Aug. 6.—The copy of the lettor of atornay of John Smyth of Hull, marchand, directyd from Hanserdame in Holland.

To all theym that schall see or hear redd owr oppen lettors, grettyng. Whe, Maior, Burghmasters, Rulers, and Counsayll of the towne of Hanserdame, lat wett, certyfying wt knowleige of trewth that byfor us dyd apper schypper Nanmynk Clarson, owr conburgeis, with the worshipfull circumspect Mr Henryk Diryksoon, owr comburgeis, Master at this tym, and John Ysbrantson Holostoyt, or comburgeis, in Counsell, owners and furth setters of the said [*sic*] schypp, comprehendyng together all other owners of the schyp aforsaid, and have in that qualite constituted and gyffen powre by theis presentes in all better fourm to the

discreit Jamys [*sic*] Smyth, schewer of theis, for theym constitutantes, to warn, demaunde, and to receyve restitucion of such goodes as from the said schypper Namynk Clarsson certayn tym passed have beyn takken of on Rychard Olyver, schypper of the schypp namyd the Mykkell of Hull, Royse of Grymysbe, and Robert Rachton of Scharbrugh, all inhabitantes and subjectes of the kyngdom of Ingland, w^{t} theyr adherrentes, w^{t} all dommaiges and interest in the cawis of the said Namynk sustenyd, and for the same to pleyt and to persue to an end byfor all Juges, and to obserf all terms of the law, to mayk composicione and doyng to gyf qwyttans of his receypt, and to keyp fre from all aft^{r} demaundes and harmleis, and on or more in his plays to substytute; and further generally and specially to doo and levy herin all that wiche they constitutantes in theyr own persons myght or owght to doo; promysyng allso to keip and caws to be kept sure and of good worth for ever all that wiche by theyr constitutyd and his substitutyd every of theym in the forsaid cawse, w^{t} all that may concern the same, shalbe doon or leyft, in all condicion as if it wher downe by theym constitutantes in theyre own persons; and all w^{t}out frauyde or gyle. In witnes of trewith we have causeid the seall of caussys of the said town of Hanserdame herunto be appendyd. Geven the sext day of August in the yer of O^{r} Lord God m^{lo} v^{c} xl and ix.

Sett ouer owytt of Duche in Inglysch by me Hubbard, scryuen'(?), notary, aft^{r} my capacyte, manu mea. (fo. 285^{b}.)

6 Edw. VI. [1552], Nov. 13.—Bond by John Bellow of Newstead, esq., to pay and deliver to John Dean, *alias* Lawrance, bastard son of S^{r} Robert Lawrence, clerk, deceased, the sum of 50*l*., a silver salt with a cover, a gilt cup and cover, 5 silver spoons, and a gold signet, when he shall attain the age of 21, in satisfaction of the goods late of said S^{r} Robert Lawrance, and Katherin Mayson, *alias* Lawrance, sister of the said S^{r} Robert. Also to keep the said John Dean at school till 16. (fo. 289^{b}.)

1 Eliz. [1559], Jan. 12.—Bond by John Bellow of Newstead, co. Linc., esq., to indemnify the town against his costs and those of Master Harrington, chosen Burgesses for Parliament. (fo. 291^{b}.)

7 Eliz. [1565], July 26.—Bond by Lawrence Meres, Recorder, to come twice or oftener every year to keep the sessions, &c. (fo. 301^{b}.)

9 Hen. VII. [1493], 4 Sept. Letter from Henry Lacy to Master Hempryngham.—Maister Hempryngham, in ryght gud herty maner I recommend me unto you, hertely thankyng yow of all kyndnes. Ser, the caus of my wrytyng unto yow at this tyme is that I may be bold on you to have the over syght of all such howsyng and ground which I have in Grimesby, that is to wyt, v schoppis by Sant James Chirch, and a stabull w^{t} a myln hous, w^{t} a ground to the same by John Stopis hous, and also a ground that was Wylsons adioinyng to the same; whych stabull and myln hous betwix my broder Robert Lacy and William Butler and o^{r} nebur must be repared, and scharply and schortly thei haue promysed me; and so doon I hartely pray yow to se the said howsing and ground orderd to the best, and that no person occupy yt bot for the mony; and my v schoppes to lat thame . . . . as you thynk good to honest and trusty persons. The rent off evere schop is iij*s*. iiij*d*., and me thynk better it is to gyff somewhat a gane than to mynych any thyng theroff; but I fully remyt evere thyng to yo^{r} wysdom, and as yow may resave any mony to repare the said schopes . . . . . is also my broder and I standes in bargannyng for the same, but not fully agreed nor concludit; wherefor now, senc I depart out of this contre, ther is no

man w^tin Grimesby I cane so fathefully trust, nor be so bold upon as yow; and yf yt ly in my poure I trust to serve yo^r kyndnes. Also you schall resave be this brynger iij kays to the schoppes, and tho that wantes, my broder Robert praye Henry Skytt' his servaunt to mak theme, and he will content hym for the same. And thus I pray Jh'u have yow in his mersy and full kepyng; amen. At Kelby, on Thursday, the iiij day of Septembr' A^o ix. H. vij^t.

Yowr

Henry Lacy. (fo. 317^b.)

1 & 2 Ph. & Mary [1555], June 26.—Deed by John Bellow of Newstead (*de Novo loco*) on Anckeholm, esq., to Philip Tyrwhytt, esq., Richard Hempryngham, Thomas Apleyerd, Henry Thryscrosse, John Goldwell, Thomas Alldred, and John Apleyerd, gentlemen. Grant of all his lands, &c. in Grimsby, Clee, Bradley, Little Cotes, and Stallingbro', to the use of himself and Ursula his wife. (fo. 333^a.)

No date.—Rental of Clee. (13 Hen. VIII. is the date of the preceding entry.) Rents due to the town of Grimesby:—

Furst, of Henr' Moyn for - - -	v^s viij^d
It' of the same - - -	(*blank*).
It' of the same for Idale in Klee - -	viij^d
It' of Robert Slownt - - - -	iij^s ij^d
It' of Henr' Grimesby - - - -	xxiij^d
It' of Wat' Warne - - - -	iij^s iiij^d
It' of Thomas Bell - - - -	ij^s xj^d
It' of the nuns of Grimesby - - -	ij^s v^d
It' of the Abbot of Wellow - - -	x^d
It' of John Kygier for landes lat Fowler -	ij^s viij^d
It' of the same for landes lat Stellion (?) -	iiij^d
„ „ „ Laceby - -	ij^d ob.
It' of Hurchyned - - - -	xv^d ob.
It' of Thomas Curtas - - - -	xiiij^d
It' of Henr' Cowlbe - - - -	xiiij^d
It' of landes late Cort'- - - -	xij^d
It' of Margaret Laceby - - - -	vij^d
It' of Henr' Dymbleton- - - -	j^d
Summa totalis -	xliij^s i^d

(fo. 345^b.)

17 Hen. VII. [1502], May 31.—Robert Lacye, maior. To the Court came Robert Gardner and Henry Hill of Walberdyswyk, tenants of the manor of Blydbure, co. Suffolk, and produced Royal letters of 30 Jan. 1 Hen. VII. [1486], which are recited.

They are addressed to all Sheriffs, and command them to permit the men and tenants of the manor of Blydebure, in co. Suffolk, which is of the ancient demesne of the Crown (as appears by certificate sent by the Treasurer and Chamberlains into the Chancery of King Henry VI.), to be quit from paying toll and contributing to the expenses of Knights sent to Parliament, according to ancient custom.

Wherefore it was considered by the Court that the tenants of the said Manor were free of toll within the King's town of Grimsby. (fo. 346^b.)

1305, xvii. kl. April.—Deed of Walter de Well and Walter son of Richard Storme of Itterby, parish of S^t Saviour Clee, which is appropriated to Grimesby Abbey, as to tithes of fish, &c. (fo. 349.)

15 Hen. VII. [1500]. Feast of Pentecost.—Deed of Katherine Hyll of Mych Glenn, co. Leic., widow, and Thos Hyll of Stowghton, co. Leic., leasing their mead in Baxstergate in Grymesby, north of a tenement of Dame Elizabeth Cunstabull, widow, to Alexander Forrest of Grymesby, burgess. (fo. 349.)

8 Hen. VII. [1493], March 29.—Letters of the Mayor, Barons, and Commons of Wynchelse, in favour of John Fermour.

1477, Aug. 17.—Will of John Sheryffe of Great Grimsby, merchant. To be buried in the church of B. Mary the Virgin at Calesse. Lincoln Cathedral, 6s 8d. St James's Church, Grimsby, 5 marks. Chapel of the Stapyll in Calesse, 20s. Image of St Thomas there, 40d. High altar of St James's Church, for tithes forgotten, 6s 8d. Humberston Abbey, 20s. Wm Brown, 40d. Elizth Brown, 6s 8d. Katherine my wife, my principal house wherein I reside at Grimsby for her life, with remainder to my son Robert Sheryffe. I also leave him other houses and lands (described) at Grimsby and Bradley. Son John Sheryffe, a messuage in St Marygate, &c. Son Wm Sheryffe, a messuage in Brighowgate, &c. Daughter Elizth Sheryffe. Residue to wife and sons Robert and John, executors. (fo. 353.)

25 Eliz.—It is ordered that no manner of person, beinge a laborer, that dothe or shall come to dwell and inhabitte wthin this burroughe shall not worke as a laborer there before he be admytted by Mr Maior and his bretheryne to dwell here and to worke as a laborer, and paie to the use of the townes chamber 2s for his furst amyttance.

Every shomaker, taler, cobler, glover, smythe, weaver, tynker, and such like occupacons paye to th' use of the townes chambre for their saide furste admyttance, yf he be a maried person, 3s 4d, and yf he be a syngler person, 5s.

Every pedder 5s, marcer 10s, draper 10s, and such like occupacons 10s each.

Every marchant venterrer and such like 20s.

No owner of property in the borough to let any house or shop to any person not an inhabitant of the borough.

3 Hen. VII. [1488], May 20.—Contemporary copy of a long charter as to grant by King Edward [III.] to John Duke of Aquitaine and Lancaster and Blanche his wife of the possessions of Henry Earl of Lancaster, father of Henry Duke of Lancaster. (fo. 354.)

11 Hen. [VII. ? 1496 ?], June 26.—Royal letters as to the inhabitants of Tetney, Hole, Itterby, and Thrunscoe, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. (fo. 355b.)

14 Hen. VII. [1499], June 14.—Royal letter of protection for two Scotch merchants, under the Signet.

Henry by the grace of God, Kyng of England and of Fraunce, and Lord of Irland, to all mayers, scheryffes, bailyffes, constables, coustumers, comptrollers, serchers, kepers of poortes and passages, and to all maner other or officers, mynistres, and subgietes, as wele by see and fressh waters as by land, to whome thies oure lettres shalbe shewed, and to evere of theym, gretyng. We late you witt that of our grace especiall, for certein consideracions us moving, we have by thiese presentes taken Andrewe Mailnynge and Andrewe Swan, of the Realme of Scotland, merchantes, theire factors and attorneyes, unto or proteccion, tuicion, saufgarde, and defence, and have licenced them joinctly and severally to come into this or Reyme, and all other places under or obeisaunce, withe a shipe or shippes of the portage of oon hundred tonnes or undre, laden

w^{t} almaner goodes and merchandises, and w^{t} two maisters, sixtene maryners, thre pages, and also w^{t} harnesse and alle other thynges lawfull and necessary for the defence of them and of their said ship and goodes; and the seid merchandises to uttre w^{t}in o^{r} said Realme and obeisaunce for their most profitt and advauntages; and therupon to recharge the same ship or shippes in the same o^{r} Realme and obeisaunce w^{t} all maner greynes, victailles, goodes, and merchaundises lieffull, and theym to conveye or doo to be conveied into Scotland aforseid, their to make like uttraunce of theym; and undre the same foarme to goo and come, passe and repasse, as well by see as by land, abide and sujourne w^{t} in this o^{r} seid Realme and obeisaunce, as often as theim shall lyke, durynge the space of oon hole yere next ensuynge the date herof. Wherfore we woll and straitly charge you that ye quietly permitte the said Andrewe Mailnyng and Andrewe Swan, and theire seid facto^{r}s and atto^{r}neis, to use and enioye the hole effect of thies presentes, w^{t}out eny lawfull lette or impedyment of you or eny of you to the contrarye, as ye woll eschewe o^{r} grete displeasour and aunswere unto us therin at yo^{r} perilles. Provided alwaies that of o^{r} custumes, subsidies, and other duties to us rightfully belonging for the said greynes, victailles, goodes, and merchaundises we be faithfully aunswered. Provided also that undre colour hereoff they nor eny of theym doo or procur to be done eny thyng prejudiciall unto us, o^{r} said Realme, or o^{r} subgiettes of the same, upon peyn of forfiture and breche of this o^{r} sauf conduct, w^{t} other perilles and daungiers which may ensue unto theim in that bihalff. Given undre oure Signet, att oure Mano^{r} of Shene, the xiiijth day of Juyn, the xiiij yere of o^{r} Reigne. (fo. 356^{b}.)

At the end of the volume are entered the original bonds, with their signatures and seals, from the Members of Parliament for the Borough, to indemnify the town against expense. Amongst them are :—

Thomas Hatclyff of Hatclyff, esq.
Thomas Ellys, junior, of Wyham, esq. } 27 Sept. 1597.
Thomas, Lord Clynton and Saye, 7 Oct. 1601.
Sir John Wraye of Blyton, knt.
Richard Towtheby of Healing, esq. } 22 March 1614.
William Skinner of Thornton, esq., 2 March 1625.

After fo. 361, the folios are numbered (apparently in error) 352, 353, and 354.

The second fo. 355 is in a bundle of fragments of Court Books in Box VII.

Court Book, 1539–1548. A paper book of 125 folios, stitched into a pre-Reformation MS. cover.

Most of these Court Books contain (besides the usual routine business of the Mayor's Court) Sessions for hiring servants and apprentices (when the names of masters and servants, &c. are entered), and Sessions for weights and measures, and trade marks.

31 Hen. VIII.—Leonard Curteys, Mayor.

A deed of John Kyngston of Grimsby is entered, as to a ship called the Anne of Cales, bought of John Skarlett.

Henry Whytgyft,* a juror.

37 Hen. VIII.—"One coytte, collour violet," praysed by Henry Witgift and others.

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* The father of the Archbishop.

1 Edw. VI.—William Bond, the Treasurer, to have for his pains, the 3rd penny that comes into this Court by frayes.*

John Bellow, esq., Alderman, agrees to serve in Parliament, and not to make any charge for the same against the Borough.

Court Book, 1562–1575. A paper book of 281 folios, in parchment binding.

Contains Views of Frankpledge and "Curia Dominæ Reginæ."

4 Eliz.—Michael Emp[r]yngham, Mayor. Richard Anderson and Robert Robertes, fined for an affray and drawing blood, on the Queen's highway.

John Cleatham and Richard Legerde fined for an affray and bloodshed.

Many similar entries about this time.

5 Eliz.—Peter Roes and Robert Hundilbie, clerk, fined for an affray and bloodshed.

5 Eliz.—Mem., that at this Courte John Clatham hayth bowght the townes house for the summe of iij^{li} to be paid to the Chamberlaines at the feaste of Philip and Jacobe th'appostilles next coomyng.

Robert Ascuge, son and heir of Beatrice, daughter and coheiress of Robert Caterall, claims lands by descent.

Thomas, servant of Thomas Curtes, gent., and Edmund Sperman, fined for an affray and bloodshed.

At this Cortte com Henrie Fotherbie and clamed the inerytans of iiij^{or} shopes late ys fatheres, John Fotherbie.

Robert Fotherbie comes and claims to be admitted to two shops in Grimsby under the will of Thomas Fotherbie.

William Thomson of Kelbye and Richard Curtes of Clee—affray and bloodshed.

Martin Fotherbie, Alderman, and Wiliiam Casse—affray and bloodshed.

6 Eliz.—Thomas Madison and George Hustwate—affray and bloodshed.

Thomas Madyson, Mayor.

Approbrous (*sic*) spoken by George Hustwayt, one of the Baylyffes of Grett Grymsbie; viz., the 2 daye of Dec. A.D. 1564, he manyfestlye seyde, before Mr. Mayo^{r} and his bretherne, he prayed God that the puttyng in of M^{r}. Empyngham into the Hall, and the stoute doynges, were not a further troble unto the towne.

The day and yere above specyfied, M^{r} Rychard Thymbleby, in the Common Hall, seyd to M^{r} Mayo^{r} that (*sic*) these wordes as hereafter folowyth: "M^{r} Mayo^{r}, I thanck yo^{u} for my brothers cause; yo^{u} have called me a ruffyan, but yo^{u} ar wythin yo^{r} lybertie nowe, but other places will serve;" wyth such unsemelye wordes; presently came into the Hall, and spak manye unsemelye wordes unto the Mayor and his bretherne, and verye thretenlye; whose names ar M^{r} John Thymblebie and M^{r} Edward Skypwyth.

George Hustwayt, Baylyf of the broughe of Grett Grymsby, spak these wordes unto Thomas Lusom, clerck of the Cowrte, as hereafter folowyth, on tweithe Even last past: "It were a good dede and verye necessarie that the broughe of Grett Grymsby were ordred by the wyse Justices of the countrie, and the lybertie taken clene from us."

Item, at the next Courte in the Common Hall the seyd George Hustwayt spake these wordes to the Mayor: "Yo^{u} have placed and unyted M^{r} Seyntpole unto yo^{u}, as yt maye seme unto me and to others

* Fines for affrays and bloodshed appear to have been one of the chief sources of income to the Court at this period, and long afterwards.

of the howse, to impovreshe yo^{r} power neyhbors." And byd M^{r} Mayo^{r} put it in for a pyke thanck.

Yt is payned by the Mayor and his bretherne that no man suffer his cattall to go abrode in the streates wthout one folow them, apon peyn of everye beast iiij^{d}.

Geo. Hustwayt, when ordered by Mr. Mayor to go to the Bar to answer for his ill demeanour, "sayd to Mr. Mayo^{r} that he was not at his commawndment; 'I will aunswere it here; I will not stirre owtē of this place;' wth many thretnyng wordes."

John Bolt keeps a dog for hunting hares, against the statute.

John Grey keeps arrows "in quodam bumberd vocat' a handgun," and a dog for hunting, against the statute.

7 Eliz.—Jur' presentant quod isti quorum nomina sequuntur ludebant ad illicita joca, id est, ad boylyng, contra statutum, &c. Dominus Rob. Hundylbie is one of the offenders.

Henry Fotherbe, Wm. Forsyth, Margaret Robertes, and others are presented for playing "ad illicita joca, id est, ad alias [aleas] et cartas pictas in domis suis, contra," &c.

Mem^{dum} that Sir Richard Thymbylbe, knyght, has bought and brought into this haven a cray lodden with fyer wood and tymber.

Roger, servant of Silvester Bellowe, and Douglas, a Scotsman—affray.

8 Eliz.—William Graye, of Newcastle on Tyne, and Humphrey More, maryner—affray and bloodshed.

9 Eliz.—Yt ys ordeyned that Mr. Rob^{t} Audesley, now newe elected to the offyce of the Mayoraltie, shall remove his dwelling from his late house at S^{t} James churche steele, unto his howse in Briggogate, or to some suche other house or dwellinge mete and convenyent for the Quenes levetenaunte of this burghe, before Martenmas next, and to contynue there during his tyme of mayoraltie; and to decentlie repayre his said house in Briggogate, and not to kepe or occupye any manner of victualing during his mayoraltie, under payne of xx^{l}.

13 Eliz.—No person to carry passengers from any part of the liberties of the borough to Hull, or any place beyond the Humber, on pain of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; no person to bring passengers across the Humber to Grimsby without paying to the Chamber half the accustomed duty; and no person to take for carrying any free man more than 1^{d} there and 1^{d} back.

13 Eliz.—Assize of weights and measures. Curious sketches of trade marks in the margin.

Court Book, 21 Eliz.–42 Eliz. A paper book of 515 folios, without covers, but apparently complete, except the first 18 folios.

23 Eliz.—It is ordered and agreed that ther shall no occupier, artificer, or handycraftesman w^{ch} shall happen to come to this towne hereafter, beinge a forener, worke of his occupacōn or sett uppe and kepe a shoppe wthin this borrowe, or a man of any manner of trade whatsoever, before he be thereunto furst allowed by Mr. Maior and his bretheryn.

26 Eliz.—John Southe, gent., is appointed to prosecute as attorney for the town on a bond made to the Mayor and Burgesses by Robert Storye of Conysbie and Thomas Risfurthe of Lowthe in 40*l.*, for not repairing S^{t} James's church, as in the condition to the bond.

27 Eliz.—Mem. that att this Courte it is agreed by the whole Courte (Xpofer Hatclyf excepte) that Mr. Marke Holte shall putt in his owne bonde for appeiraunce before Mr. Maior, when he shalbe called, and that at Everingham in Yorkshire at the parsonage will he bee.

Also that wheras Marke Holte was in suspicion for teringe the proclamacon latelie sett out by her Hieghnes for the suppression of sedicious bookes, bylles, or other thinges, in consideration wherof ther was open proclamation made that yf any coulde saye that he tare yt, or that he should reporte he wold tere it downe, but ther was not any coulde impeache hym.

39 Eliz.—Sir Geo. S^{t} Poll, knight, fined 40*l.* for not appearing to take upon him the office of Mayor when elected.

John Hatclyff, late Mayor, delivers into the hands of William Kelk, the newly elected Mayor, the keys, seal, and mace, two charters (one of the now Queen, the other of Northampton), one book of metes and bounds, the old and new ordinances, two separate extents, and a book containing two extents and other matters.

Court Book, 12 Chas. I.—1657. A paper book of 302 folios, rather dilapidated, but apparently complete.

12 Chas. I.—Gervase Holles, esq., Mayor. Every attorney of this Courte to have of his clientes of every of them xij^{d} for his reteinor, and six pence every Court day.

Every Alderman coming to the Church shall sitt in the seate for that purpose appointed, wth Mr. Maior, in orderlie manner, in their gownes of a sadd colour, uppon Sundaies, festivall daies, and Wednesdayes, upon paine of every default, xij^{d}. Every twelveman the like, on pain of vj^{d}; and the Chamberlaines, vj^{d}.

12 Chas. I.—The Bailiffs are fined 20*l.* for disobeying the Mayor's order to carry one Christopher Harlinge to prison for opprobrious language, and carrying him to a tavern instead. Afterwards mitigated to 20^{s}, and paid.

Richard Fotherbie, Alderman, called to the Common Council in place of Mr. Skelton, who is departed from the town.

13 Chas. I.—Arthur Brooke is disfranchised for breach of his Burgess oath, according to a verdict, &c.

14 Chas. I.—The right Hon. Robert, Earle of Lyndsey, Lord High Chamberlain, &c. is chosen a free Burgess and made High Steward, Sir George Hennage having assigned over his place to him.

M^{r} Paule Willet [clerk], chosen free burgess.

M^{r} Francis Halton chosen Recorder.

15 Chas. I.—Richard Broxholme and Thomas Sea—affray and drawing blood.

Gervase Holles, esq., late Mayor, delivers to William Booth, now Mayor, the keys, seal, and mace, four statute books, the new extent, one old book of charters, four silver crests, and the old ordinance "et terrar le Sipptlehowse" [? Spittlehowse].

Gervase Holles, esq., acknowledges that he hath the exemplification of the Northampton Charter, and the Charters made in Queen Elizabeth's reign and in King James's reign.

Robert Earle of Lyndsey is admitted Recorder; M^r^ Francis Mussendyne, who was Recorder afore, being put out for his disregard and neglect of the Mayor and Burgesses.

16 Chas. I.—Eliz. Fotherby and Judith Sea—an affray and drawing blood.

16 Chas. I.—M^r^ Prockter upon his oath hath enformed M^r^ Maior that M^r^ Paul Willet, minister and twelveman, required him the said Samuel Prockter to present William Booth, Maior, and Gervase Holles, esq., for laughen in the Church, or else he would present him.

21 Chas. I. [1645], Oct. 21.—M^r^ William Wray is chosen Burgesse for the Parliament, in place of M^r^ Gervase Holles.

[1646], March 3.—At this Court Collonell Edward Rosseter is made a free Burgess, and is chosen for Parliament in place of Sir Christopher Wray, who is dead.* And he gives 10*l.* to the Town Chamber. He also signs and seals with his coat of arms a bond in this volume, indemnifying the town against any expense in the matter.

22 Chas. I. [1646], Aug. 4.—M^r^ Francis Halton, Recorder, is by ordinance of Parliament declared to be uncapable of bearinge any office in the Commonwealth, haveinge beene in actuall armes against the Parliament. He is accordingly discharged, and M^r^ Edward King chosen Recorder in his place.

23 Chas. I.—M^r^ Thomas Smyth chosen Schoolmaster for teaching the free Grammar School, at 20 marks per annum.

Sessions for servants.—Margaret Gardiner in service of Hammond Sutton, gent.; wages, xxx^s^ per annum, and unum lynn apron.

Peter Mason is amerced for buying corn and keeling it away.

Richard Broxholme is disfranchised for using abusive language to Thomas Beatniffe, the Mayor.

24 Chas. I.—William Eland, gent., and Willoughbie Guevara, gent., in right of his wife, claim a house in the occupation of the said Willoughbie; it is referred to the next Court Leet.

[1648,] Oct. 3.—Thomas Beatniffe, Mayor. At this Court M^r^ William Crew, Alderman, is sworne Maior for the yeare following, having received of M^r^ Beatniffe, late Maior, the mace, seale, and keys, three silver crests, the top of the olde mace, four statute bookes, [and] the copye of the old ordinance.

1650.—Easter, Alice, and Frances Hustwayte are entered coheires to Leonard Hustwayte, lawfullie begotten of Elene his wife.

Frances Smyth is entered tenant to a house lately purchased of John Cooke and others.

Att this Court Ed. Wells, sen., being form^r^ly found guiltie of steelinge 1 sheepe from one unknowne, is adjudged to be stript from the wayst upward and whippt in the Hall till blood come, on Thursday next.

1652 (at end of volume). — Bond by Matthias Yarburgh, Wm. Gardiner and John Braden, inhabitants of Grimsby, in 20*l.*, to indemnify the town against the said M. Yarburgh on his wife or children becoming chargeable to the town.

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* This settles a point left in doubt by the recent Return of Members of Parliament.

1652.—Robert Cooke is to put the Chauntry howse in repair, on pain of forfeiting his lease.

1653, April 26.—M^r^ Edmund Smyth is admitted Schoolmaster for the free Schoole, during the tyme of his good behaviour; his brother resigning his place up.

Walter Lloyd is chosen the Parish Clarke, by consent of the Court.

1655.—It is ordered that whereas Christopher Claton, in the behalfe of his mother An Alford, wid., hath bought one wessell of Raffe of one Laurence Lamkey of Odwell in the kingdome of Norway, upon w^ch^ private bargane there appears a breach of the priviledges of this Corporation, and therupon a fine accrues to be dew: yet nottw^th^standinge, the said coostome beinge for a certain tyme by somme remissnesse lade asid, she hath libertie to injoye this hir said bargand, &c.

1656, July 24.—The "blew stone" is mentioned as a boundary in an ordinance. "The street leading to Wellowgate nigh the blew-stone."

Many Alehouse licences occur in the Court Books about this time.

1657.—Richard Wilkinson fined 6^s^ 8^d^ for abusing of Mr. Maior's authoritye in releasing a man out of the stockes after Mr. Maior had committed him.

Wm. Halton, gent., found guilty of an assault and battery on Phillips Weslyd, gent.

Phillips Weslyd, gent., presented for threatening to ride over Thomas Newarke, and endeavouring soe to doe.

Court Book, 1738–1762. A large paper volume bound in leather entitled, "Great Grimsby—Mayor's Court Book."

1737.—A lease of the Chantry farm granted to Mr. Christopher Clayton for 11 years, under the same terms as Mr. Bransby lately held it.

Ann Davis pleads guilty to the felony whereof she stands indicted, and the judgement of the Court is that she be comitted to prison till six of the clock in the afternoon, and then to receive 28 lashes over her naked shoulders, viz., 7 lashes at Seamore Bridge, 7 more against Mr. Alderman Thompson's house (Mr. Thompson was on the Bench), 7 more at the Markett Cross, and the other 7 at the corner of the Town's Hall; and then be remitted to prison till her fees be paid.

1747, Sept. 15.—At this Court Ralph Tennyson, Alderman, is elected and chosen Mayor for the year ensuing. Wm. Hildyard was Town Clerk at this time.

David Clayton, son of George Clayton, late an Alderman, (being free born,) is admitted to the freedom, paying 10 groats a year for three years.

Christopher Clayton, son of Geo. Clayton, late Alderman, admitted. Sureties, Charles Pelham, esq., and David Clayton.

(The late Lord Tennyson was descended from these Tennysons, Claytons, and Hildyards.)

(Box V.)

This box contains Court Rolls, Court Books, and Views of Frankpledge from the time of Henry V. to that of Queen Anne. They are in disorder, and many of them are much decayed.

Also, a bundle of local deeds and leases, chiefly temp. Elizabeth, but some of the 15th and 17th centuries; Decrees of Sewers, made at Sessions of Sewers held by adjournment at Grimsby, 24 June 1697; Bailiffs' Account Rolls, 9 Edw. IV.; a bundle of receipts to the Bailiffs for the fee-farm rent paid to the Hon. Bapt. May, 1676–1697, Charles May, Esq., 1706–1714, and Mrs. Jane May, 1734; similar receipts temp. Commonwealth; a bundle of Bailiffs' Quietus Rolls, temp. Ric. II., Hen. VIII., Philip and Mary, Eliz., James I., and Chas. II.; a book of accounts temp. Eliz.; and a Roll of Oaths against Papal Supremacy and Transubstantiation, 1775–1783.

(Box VI.)

This box contains Court Books and fragments of Court Books (chiefly *Curia Forinseca*) for 9, 10, 15, 24, and 36 Hen. VIII., 5 & 6 Ph. and Mary, 12 Chas. I., 1689–1692, and 1724–5; Files of Proceedings in the Mayor's Court, and Admissions of Freemen, 1721–1733; Bailiffs' Quietus Roll, temp. Edw. VI.; and Rolls and Bundles of Admissions of Freemen (giving nothing but the name and date) of the 18th and 19th centuries.

The following extract is from a fragment of a Court Book, dated 12 Chas. I. [1636], Oct. 5:—"Upon conference betwixt Mr. Maior and his Councell for the raisinge of a stocke for settinge the poore of Grimsby on worke, beinge many in number and increasinge much uppon us, it was agreed that the East Marshes should be lett, &c.; and that the parish should have a particular warninge to be att the Churche uppon Sunday last att eveninge prayer, where the said Mr. Maior did then propound the former intencion before them all," &c. Signed by Gervase Holles, Mayor, and many Burgesses.

(Box VII.)

Court Book (part of), 1660–1, containing only folios 34 to 63.

1660, Oct. 17.—Appointment of a committee for the restoration of Grimsby Haven; signed by Edward Cooke, Mayor, and 75 others.

1661.—Mr. Thomas Beatniffe is chosen "Scholmaster of the Free-schole, soe long as he doeth welbehave himselfe." Colonel King, the Recorder, gave 10*l.* towards the repair of the Vicarage house.

Court Book (part of), containing folios 18 to 287.

1659.—Receipt by Mrs. Alice Morley, for her late husband, for 4*l.*, the cost of amending the Mace carried before Mr. Mayor, called the Mayor's Mace.

18 Chas. II., Nov. 6.—Bond by Sir Henry Bellasys of Worlaby, K.B., on election as Burgess to Parliament. (Seal of arms.) Also Poll between him and Edward King, esq. (fo. 150.)

24 Chas. II.—Richard Bower admitted a free Burgess, having married a freeman's widow; to pay three nobles.

Charles Pelham, esq., admitted a free burgess on payment of 10 marks; and Henry Fanshawe, esq., on payment of 10*l.*

24 Chas. II.—Theodore Walpole to officiate as Town Clerk till another is provided. (fo. 219.)

25 Chas. II.—Poll for Charles Pelham, esq., and William Broxholme, esq., as Burgesses for Parliament. And bond of Broxholme as to expenses. (fo. 230.)

Court Book (part of), 30–32 Chas. II.

31 Chas. II. [1678], Feb. 17.—Poll for William Broxholme of Barrow, esq., and George Pelham of Gray's Inn, esq., as Burgesses for Parliament. And their bonds against expenses; with seals of arms.

George Pelham pays 10*l.* to be admitted to the freedom.

Same year, Aug. 26.—Poll for the same candidates. And bonds of Broxholme and Charles Pelham of Brocklesby, esq., thereon.

Court Book (part of), 32 Chas. II., containing folios 336 to 446.

1688, Jan. 11.—Poll for Sir Edward Ayscoghe of South Kelsey and Sir Thomas Barnardiston of Ketton, co. Suffolk, as Burgesses for Parliament. And their bonds for expenses.

33 Chas. II.—William Broxholme of Barrow, esq., is elected Recorder, in place of Edward Kinge, esq., deceased, and signs the declaration against the Solemn League and Covenant.

Bonds by William Broxholme of Barrow, esq., and Charles Pelham, esq., on their election as Burgesses for Parliament. (fo. 338.)

33 Chas. II.—Francis Beatniffe admitted to a messuage, as heir to Mr. Thomas Beatniffe, deceased. (fo. 343.)

33 Chas. II., Sept. 26.—Mr. Alexander Wright elected Schoolmaster during the good pleasure of the whole town. (fo. 347.)

Court Book, 1689–1720. A large book of about 1,070 folios, but extremely decayed, and a great part of the leaves loose.

1688, Dec. 11.—An order dated 28th Oct. last, signed by Sir Edward Ayscogh, knt., Vincent Grantham and Edward King, esquires, for the towne of Grimsby, for setting out three foot soldiers.

1688.—Resolution to plead to a Bill of *Quo Warranto* lately exhibited by the King against the Corporation. Various charters, &c., are taken out of the Chamber, and sent to London, for the purposes of the defence.

1689–90, March 3.—Poll of the Burgesses for Sir Thomas Barnardiston, Sir Edward Ayscoghe, and John Chaplin, esq., on the election of two Burgesses for Parliament.

1690.—Old Charters, which had been sent to London, are now restored to the Chamber.

1691.—Nathaniel Gannock, citizen and fishmonger of London, purchased of his brother John Gannock of Boston, gent., all his messuages in Grimsby, bequeathed to him by the will of Ralph West, late of Irby, gent.

1691.—Geo. Clayton, late Mayor, fined, 5*l.* to the Chamber, and 20*s.* to the poor, for omitting to make the Election Feast and Michaelmas Feast.

1692, Oct. 4.—Bridgett, wife of Henry Deane, found guilty of stealing a peticoat, and sentenced to be whipped at the whipping post, stripped to the waist, till her body be bloody.

1710. Poll for Arthur Moore, esq., William Coatesworth, esq., and Robert Viner, esq., as Burgesses for Parliament.

1713.—Poll for Arthur Moore, esq., Sir James Parke, knight, Wm. Cotesworth, esq., and Matthew Boucherett, esq.

This volume consists chiefly of mere names. There are a few admissions of Freemen.

Court Book, 1720–1738.

1720.—Poll for election of a Burgess to Parliament; Arthur Moore, esq., and Robert Viner, esq. The former elected, in place of Sir Robert Chaplin, expelled the House of Commons.

1720, June 14.—Geo. Clayton elected Town Clerk in the place of Mr. Charles Bransby, deceased.

1721.—*Mandamus* to admit William Stampe to the Freedom. Resolved to show cause, and meanwhile not to admit the said Stampe.

1721.—Resolved to solicit a general Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Corporation charters, and an alteration of the Market day from Wednesday to Friday.

1729, Feb. 3.—An instance of disfranchisement for felony.

Court Book (*Curia Forinseca*), 1694–1727. Imperfect; first 52 pages wanting. Scarcely anything except names of jurors and parties to suits.

Court Book (*Curia Forinseca*), 1727–1733; containing similar entries.

A bundle of fragments of Court Books and Views of Frankpledge, from temp. Ric. III. to William and Mary.

Fines or Final Concords.

(Box VIII.)

These are Fines acknowledged before the Mayor, Coroners, &c. for the time being, on conveyances of lands or tenements within the Borough. They are about 300 in number, and range in date from temp. Edw. III. to Charles I., with a few later.

Sacrament Certificates.

(Box IX.)

These certificates are not arranged, but appear to be all of the 18th century. This same box contains also Sessions Rolls and Papers for 1741, 1775, and 1809; and a Roll of Subscriptions by the Justices in Quarter Sessions to the Oaths against Papal Supremacy and Transubstantiation, 1761–1774.

Chamberlains' Accounts, &c.

(Box X.)

This box contains bundles of Chamberlains' Accounts and Vouchers between 1828 and 1836. Also, Oaths against Papal Supremacy, &c., and other Sessions Papers between 1690 and 1781; Verdicts of Court Leet, 17th and 18th centuries; and Freemen's Admissions, 1824–1832.

(Box XI.)

A very dilapidated bundle of Chamberlains' Accounts, temp. Ric. II., and other bundles for temp. Henry VIII., Commonwealth, and Charles II.; a few Election Indentures of the 17th and 18th centuries; Sessions Papers and Admissions, 1737; 18th century Corporation Rentals; and modern letters and vouchers.

(Boxes XII. and XIII.)

Contain only printed Statutes at large.

(Box XIV.)

Counterparts of Leases of Corporation property between 1662 and 1825, and one of 1641.

MAYORS OF GRIMSBY.

The following list was compiled from the Corporation Records by Colonel Gervase Holles, who was Mayor of Grimsby in 1636, 1638, and 1663, and it is taken from his unpublished Collections amongst the Lansdowne MSS. :—

1202. B., Mayor of Grimsby.
1203. Baldwin.
1205. Edmund del Kal.
1206. William Clerk.
1207. John le Art.
1209. Adam Welby.
1210. William Russel.
1219. Baldwin.
1261. Philip de Wivelsby.
1287. William Fraunke.
1289. „ „
1293. Richard Brisbancke.
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1476. John Newport, Esq.
1477. Thomas Broughton.
1478. Robert Constable.
1480. William Glasiner.
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1493. Thomas Bell.
1494. James Beverley.
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1496. Thomas Bell.
1497. Thomas Alseby.
1498. James Beverley.
1499. William Vicars.
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1518. Richard Thymolby, Esq.
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1530. Peter Mason.
1531. Richard Thymolby, Esq.
1532. Michael Mason.
1533. Robert Cooke.
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1535. Michael Mason.
1536. Richard Empringham.
1537. Richard Thymolby, Esq.
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1539. Michael Mason.
1540. Patrick Hansley.
1541. John Barnardiston.
1543. Robert Cooke.
1544. John Kingston.
1545. Richard Empringham.
1546. John Bellow, Esq.
1547. Richard Empringham.

1548. Richard Thymolby.
1549. John Bellow, Esq.
1550. William Simson.
1551. Robert Cooke.
1552. John Bellow, Esq.
1553. John Kingston.
1554. Richard Empringham.
1555. John Bellow, Esq.
1556. Richard Cooke (son).
1557. Robert Cooke (father).
1558. Richard Empringham.
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1559. William Royse.
1560. Robert Windyll.
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1581. John Jackson.
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1586. John Jackson.
1587. Christopher Harrington.
1588. William Wray, Esq.
1589. John Hatcliffe.
1590. Richard Thymolby.
1591. William Kelke.
1592. John Kingston, Esq., son of John.
1593. Godfrey Lawghton.
1594. Richard Waterhouse.
1595. Anthony Wilson.
1596. John Hatcliffe.
1597. William Kelke.
1598. Solomon Sutcliffe.
1599. „ „
1600. Richard Colton.
1601. Edward Jackson.
1602. Anthony Wilson.
1603. Solomon Sutcliffe.
1604. Hamon Greathead and William Gower.
1605. John Kingston, Esq.
1606. Bernard Colton.
1607. Edward Jackson.
1608. Solomon Sutcliffe.
„ W. Gower.
1609. William Kelke.
1610. Robert Empringham, Gent.
1611. William Gower.
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FIFTEENTH REPORT, APPENDIX, PART X.

THE

MANUSCRIPTS

OF

SHREWSBURY AND COVENTRY CORPORATIONS; THE EARL OF RADNOR, SIR WALTER CORBET, BART., AND OTHERS.

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x 93620.

MUNICIPAL RECORDS

OF

SHREWSBURY.

The Corporation records of the ancient town of Shrewsbury have recently been the objects of unusual care and interest. For several years a local committee of clergy and laymen devoted themselves to the task of cleaning, sorting, and labelling an immense mass of papers which were found in utmost confusion and in most dirty condition, but which were then classified and placed in 75 tin boxes. Finally, a brief outline account of the work was printed, and Her Majesty's Historical Commissioners were invited to send an inspector to report upon the collection. The papers thus arranged come down to the year 1837, and, of course, include very many papers of ordinary character, quarter sessions' proceedings, tax assessments, and the like, not requiring examination, except for purely local purposes. But the exceptionally valuable character of the earlier records is seen in a series of gild-merchant rolls which begin in the time of King John, and in the bailiffs' accounts, beginning in that of Henry III., as well as in the series of Royal Charters and that of Subsidy Rolls. The registers of the proceedings of the Corporation are unfortunately very imperfect, and for all that relates to the Civil War and Commonwealth period, which it was hoped would be found to be specially illustrated, there is a blank, the register being lost. A portion of the records, particularly the bailiffs' accounts to the commencement of the 17th century, were carefully searched and largely used by Messrs. Owen and Blakeway in their excellent *History of Shrewsbury*, published in two quarto volumes in 1825, and their numerous extracts have, to avoid repetition, lessened the number of those which otherwise might have been given below. In the *Archæological Journal* for September 1894 there is a paper giving a general description of the records, by Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, M.A.

The documents are classed in the following Report under these heads :—

I. Royal Charters.
II. Subsidy Rolls.
III. Gild-merchant Rolls.
IV. Registers.
V. Bailiffs' Accounts.
VI. Trained Bands.
VII. Courts.
VIII. Grammar School.
IX. Miscellaneous.

I.—Royal Charters.

1. Charter of Richard I., granting the town to the burgesses at an annual rent of 40 marks, of which ten are in lieu of providing two hunting-horses ("fugatoribus"). Dated at Westminster, 11 November *an.* 1 [1189]. Seal lost. Witnesses, H[ugh Pudsey] bishop of Durham, Geoffrey Fitz-Peter, Hugh Bard[olf], Hugh Pantulf.

A very accurate facsimile is given in Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, I. 82.

2. John; confirming a (lost) charter of Henry II.; Farendon, 13 Apr. *an.* I. [1200]. Witn. William Marescall earl of Pembroke, Geoffrey Fitz-Peter earl of Essex, Hugh Bard[olf], William Briwerre, Hugh de Neoville, Symon de Pateshille. Seal lost.

Ibid. 83, but erroneously assigned, as well as the charter following, to A.D. 1199.

3. John; granting to the town the right of electing their provosts; Westm., 20 Apr. *an.* 1. Witn. the same, with the omission of Pateshille and addition of Robert de Turneham. Broken fragments of seal, in a leather bag attached by silk strings.

4. John; granting to the burgesses the hundred with the town, at a rent of 45 marks; together with many additional privileges, including a fair, and providing that "terre et tenementa tractentur per legem Bretoll[iæ] et legem baronye et legem Anglescherye"; Notyngeham, 24 Feb. *an.* 6 [1205]. Witn., J[ohn de Grey] bishop of Norwich, Geoffrey Fitz-Peter earl of Essex, Rann[ulf] earl of Chester, William earl of Salisbury, William earl de Ferrars, Roger Constable of Chester, Roger de Thoeny, William Briwerre, Robert de Veteri Ponte (Vipount), Hugh de Neville, Eustace de Vesey, Peter de Stokes, Symon de Pateshille, William de Cantilupe, Thomas de Ardintone. Broken fragments of seal in a bag.

Abstract, *ibid.* 86–9.

[John. Charters in *an.* 11 and 17: see *Miscell. Papers, infra*, 1526.]

5. Henry III.; establishing the merchant-gild, &c.; Westm. 20 March, *an.* 11 (1227). Witn., Peter [de Rupibus] bishop of Winchester, Joscelin bishop of Bath, Richard bishop of Sarum, Hubert de Burgh earl of Kent, Hugh de Neville, Ralph de Trubleville (*sic*), Ralph Fitz-Nicholas, Richard de Argenteom, Henry de Capella. Fragment of green seal. Of this there is a duplicate original.

Ibid., 100–1.

6. Henry III.; restricting the right of sale of fresh hides and unworked cloth to the burgesses; slightly mutilated; same date; witnesses the same; small fragment of seal.

Ibid., 102.

7. Henry III.; with respect to the execution of writs by sheriffs; at Feckenham, 10 Aug. *an.* 40 (1256); fragment of green seal. Witn., W[alter de Cantilupe] bishop of Worcester, John de Plessetis earl of Warwick, master Symon de Waltone, Robert Waleraund, Nicholas de Turri, Walkelin de Arderne, Ralph de Bakep[uz], Bartholomew le Bigot, William de St. Ermin, William Gernun.

Ibid., 120–1.

8. Henry III.; securing the goods of burgesses against seizure for debts of others; same date and witnesses; fragment of seal.

Ibid., 121–2.

9. Henry III. Writ to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury granting for seven years the customs upon articles brought in for sale, for repair of the town walls, in extension of a grant for three years made in the year preceding; Bruges, 22 Sept. *an.* 41 (1257).

10. [Henry III. Of a grant, in reward of the fidelity of the burgesses, of exemption from murage throughout the kingdom, and restricting wool-merchants from purchasing wool in the county except in the market towns, there is an office copy (certified by Robert Lemon) from the record in the Tower of London. Dated at Winchester, 22 Sept. *an.* 49 (1265)]. *Ibid.*, 129.

11. [Henry III. Similar copy of the grant of a fair, for three days at the feast of St. Clement. Shrewsbury, 22 Sept. *an.* 51 (1267).]

12. Edward I. Grant, "in auxilium pontis ville vocati le Whalshe-brugge qui dirutus est et confractus, ad grave dampnum et periculum hominum tam per pontem illum quam subtus eundem per aquam transeuntium," for three years of tolls to be levied on all articles brought into the town for sale, of which a long and minute table follows: Westm., 12 Feb. *an.* 12 (1284).

13. [Edward II. Office copy of a confirmation of the Charter of Henry III. in 1267, as above, granting a fair; Westm. 5 June, *an.* 2 (1309).]

14. Edward II. *Inspeximus* of the four Charters of Henry III., nos. 5–8 *supra;* Lughteburgh, 6 Feb. *an.* 13 (1320). Witn., W[alter Stapleton] bishop of Exeter, A[dam de Orleton] bishop of Hereford, Thomas earl of Norfolk, Adomar de Valence earl of Pembroke, Edmund earl of Arundel, Hugh le Despenser the elder, Bartholomew de Badelesmere, steward of the household. Half of the seal.

15. Edward II. *Inspeximus* of a charter of Henry III. embodying the privileges in the charter of John in 1205, no. 4 *supra*, dated at Westm., 10 March, *an.* 11, and of the three charters 6, 8, 10 *supra*. Date and witnesses same as in the preceding Charter. Greater part of the green seal remaining.

16. Edw. III. Grant of a fair for four days at the feast of St. Matthew in addition to the fair for three days granted by Hen. III., 20 Sept., *an.* 51, and that for three days at the feast of St. James, granted by Edw. II., 4 June, *an.* 2 (1309). Westm., 3 March, *an.* 1 (1327); part of green seal.

[17. Edw. III. Office copy of licence for the erection of corn and malt mills; Northampton, 12 May, *an.* 2 (1328).]

18. Edw. III. *Inspeximus*, in duplicate, of the charter of Hen. III. in 1256 (no. 7 *supra*), of the confirmation-charter by Edw. II. in 1320 (no. 15), and of the three charters of Hen. III., nos. 6, 8, 10. New Sarum, 5 Oct., *an.* 2 (1328). Both copies have the greater part of their respective green seals.

19. Edw. III. Confirmation-charter reciting the preceding *Inspeximus*, and providing that the burgesses shall not be hindered in the enjoyment of any of the privileges therein contained by reason of non-user. Westm., 10 March, *an.* 11 (1337). Fragment of green seal.

20. Edw. III. Charter, in duplicate, granted in parliament at the request of Richard earl of Arundel and other magnates, giving in addition

to the privileges conveyed in the charter of Hen. III. in 1256 (no. 7 *supra*) further rights with respect to trials of burgesses and the powers of the bailiffs. Westm., 4 May, *an.* 15 (1341). Fragments of the seals, green.

Owen and Blakeway, I. 162.

21. Edw. III. *Inspeximus* of the charter of Henry III., no. 8 *supra*. Westm., 5 March, *an.* 51 (1377). Fragment of white seal.

22. Rich. II. *Inspeximus* of a confirmation-charter by Edw. III. of the two charters of Hen. III., dated at Westm., 20 March, *an.* 11 (1327), and of Edward's own charter in 1341 *ut supra*. Westm., 17 Jan., *an.* 1 (1378). Part of green seal.

23. Rich. II. Repetition of the preceding *Inspeximus*, with a saving clause against loss by non-user; Westm., 22 Nov., *an.* 13 (1389). Fragment of green seal. The initial letter is finely illuminated, on a gold ground, and represents the king seated, with the queen kneeling before him. This would seem to imply that the charter was granted at her request.

24. Rich. II. Warrant, in French, to the Archbishop of York, as Chancellor, to prepare letters under the great seal granting to the burgesses the tolls on persons bringing merchandise, for the term of four years, to repair the walls, gates, and bridges, the latter being greatly injured and almost destroyed by floods of the Severn; a previous grant for three years being now determined. Rokyngham Castle, 4 June, *an.* 15 (1392).

25. Rich. II. Contemporary copy of the letters patent issued in pursuance of the preceding warrant, with particulars of the tolls. Notyngham, 20 June (1392).

26. Rich. II. Letters patent granting to the bailiffs and community of Shrewsbury, that whereas some of them are sometimes, contrary to their privileges, arrested in Wales for debts not due from them, they shall have power, in case persons so arrested are not on demand liberated, to arrest any persons coming to Shrewsbury from the same parts of Wales and detain them until satisfaction is made. Notyngham, 7 Feb. *an.* 19 (1396). Green seal, broken.

27. Hen. V. *Inspeximus* (for which 20*l.* were paid) of an *inspeximus* by Hen. IV. (dated at Westm., 1 June, *an.* 1, 1400) of the confirmation by Rich. II. in 1389 (no. 24 *supra*) of the grant in 1396 (*supra*, 27), and of the *inspeximus* of Edw. III. in 1377 (*supra*, 22); Westm., 28 Sept., *an.* 1 (1413). Fragment of green seal.

28. Hen. VI. [?]. Contemporary copy of a grant of the tolls for three years, for the repair of the fortifications and walls, to be laid out under the supervision of the abbot of the town or his deputy; with the usual table of tolls; Westm., 6 Nov., *an.* 7. (1428). The name of the official copyist, "Sturgeon" is subscribed.

29. Hen. VI. Contemporary copy of a grant of the tolls for five years for the repair of the fortifications and walls, to be laid out under the supervision of the abbot or his deputy, or of John Asshfeld, Esq.; with a table of the tolls; Oxford, 9 Oct., *an.* 17 [1438]. The name of the official scribe, "Sturgeon" is written in the margin at the foot.

Also, another copy of a similar grant for twelve years, dated at Westm. 15 March, *an.* 20 (1442), the money to be laid out under the abbot or John Asshfeld. Subscribed, "Stopyndone."

30. Hen. VI. Charter granting many additional privileges; goods and chattels of felons, enquiry into escheats, hearing of civil causes, the bailiffs to be justices of the peace, &c., Westm., 7 June, *an.* 23 (1444). The initial letter and border are illuminated. There is an office copy of this, certified by Rob. Lemon.

31. [Edw. IV. Office copy of *inspeximus* of the confirmation-charter of Rich. II., &c.; containing also a confirmation of a charter of Hen. VI., 12 Jan., *an.* 24, confirming his grant of the tolls for twelve years on 15 March, *an.* 20 (*supra*, 29); Westm., 7 May, *an.* 2 (1462).]

32. Edw. IV. Exemplification, at the desire of the bailiffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury, of two statutes passed in Parliament 2 Hen. IV. and 2 Hen. V. for repression of incursions and robberies by the Welsh in the counties adjoining the Marches; Westm., 1 June, *an.* 10 (1470). Great seal nearly perfect.

33. [Hen. VII. Office copy of charter remitting for the term of fifty years the sum of ten marks from the annual rent of 30*l.* payable to the Crown, in consideration of the poverty and decay of the town; exonerating the inhabitants also from payment of fifteenths and other taxes; Westm., 12 Dec., *an.* 1 (1485).]

Owen and Blakeway, I. 255.

34. Hen. VII.—New and lengthy charter to the town, extending the boundaries, exempting from taxes, &c.; on four membranes; Westm., 14 Dec., *an.* 11 (1495). Fragments of seal in a bag.

Ibid., 268–9.

35. Hen. VIII. Grant to the bailiffs and burgesses of all the liberties and privileges enjoyed by the abbots of the dissolved monastery; Westm., 26 Apr., *an.* 34 (1542). On two membranes. The initial letter bears a large portrait of the King (not, however, resembling him) on the throne, and the top line is illuminated with coats of arms, lions bearing flags, &c. Fragments of seal in a bag.

Ibid., 338.

36. Edw. VI. *Inspeximus* of the preceding grant of Hen. VIII.; Westm., 12 Dec., *an.* 1 (1547). Two membranes; the initial letter has an outline pen and ink portrait of the King. Half of the seal.

37. Edw. VI. *Inspeximus* of the charter of Hen. VII. in 1495; Westm., 26 Nov., *an.* 2 (1548). Four membranes; the initial letter has the outline pen and ink portrait of the King. Fragments of the seal in a bag.

38. Edw. VI. Foundation-charter of the Grammar School; Westm., 10 Feb., *an.* 6 (1552). Outline pen and ink portrait in the initial letter. Fragment of the seal.

39. Elizabeth. Charter of incorporation of the town and suburbs; Westm., 20 Apr., *an.* 28 (1586). Four membranes; outline pen and ink portrait in the initial letter. Seal perfect.

Owen and Blakeway, I. 381–3.

40. Charles I. Charter constituting a new corporation of a mayor, twenty-four aldermen and forty-eight assistants, coroner, recorder, &c.; Westm., 16 June, *an.* 14 (1638) Six membranes; in the initial letter is a good portrait of the King. Seal in a bag, broken.

Ibid., 407–9.

The opinion of counsel (Edw. Bearcroft) upon the interpretation of some of the clauses, dated Lincoln's Inn, 6 Jan. 1787.

41. Charles II. Copy made in the 18th cent., in a folio volume, of a charter granted 16 June, *an.* 14 (1662), confirming and extending the charter of Q. Eliz., &c.

42. Charles II. Charter nominating mayor, aldermen, common councilmen, &c. 6 July, *an.* 16 (1664). Engraved portrait. Never sealed.

Ibid., 487.

Copy of the surrender of the charter of 1662 to the King, 11 Oct. 1684.

43. James II. Charter of re-incorporation; Westm., 7 March, *an.* 1 [1685.] Two membranes; engraved portrait, and elegantly ornamented margins. Fragments of seal.

Ibid., 493–4.

44. William IV. Commission of the peace to the mayor and eight others; 17 Feb., *an.* 6 (1836). Seal in tin box.

45. William IV. Letters patent for the continuance of the separate court of quarter sessions; 23 Apr., *an.* 6 (1836). Seal in tin box.

II.—Subsidy Rolls.

Of these there is an unusually full series, from the end of the 13th century to the time of Queen Anne, commencing at an earlier date than any now in the Record Office. There are three undated rolls of Edw. I., being taxations of a sixth, (Nov. 1294) of a ninth (1297), and of a twentieth (1306). Two rolls are dated in Edward's 25th and 26th years, (1296–7, 1297–8), but these were not forthcoming at the time of my inspection, and appear to have been temporarily mislaid. There is also one in which the proportion is not specified, on two membranes, of which one bears an endorsement of the total as being 220*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and the other 134*l.* 14*d.*; but it is possible that this is rather a municipal assessment than a regal. An assessment for a tenth ("R[egis] x^{am}") of the ward of the Castle Foregate and of the liberties belongs to the beginning of the 14th century, probably to the reign of Edward II. For that reign there is an assessment of a twenty-fifth (granted in 1309), which is very minute in its details of all personal property; a taxation of the liberties of the town at Easter in that year; a fifteenth for the town in 1313 ("Tallagium factum tempore r. E. fil. r. E. vi.") and of the liberties in the same year ("Taxacio libert. ville Salop. XV^{e} domino r. concesse, de anno r. r. Edwardi fil. r. Edwardi vij^{mo} incipiente"), on six numbered membranes; and a fifteenth in the ninth year (1316), in which 154 persons are taxed. For the reign of Edw. III. there is only one roll, that of a tenth in his tenth year (1336), and but one for Rich. II. That one, however, is specially interesting as being the taxation in 1380 for every person above the age of 14 which caused the insurrection of Wat Tyler, and as consequently giving the total of the population of the town above that age. It is headed, "Compotus Ric. de Graffton, Walteri de Brom. . . . ., Hug. Donfowe, et Johannis le Tyelere, collectorum subsidii domino Regi concessi in villa Salop *et libertate ejusdem* (struck out), videlicet de qualibet persona laica, homine et femina, etatis xiiij annorum iiij^{d}," and begins, "In primis, in eadem villa Salop et suburbiis ejusdem computantur strata et venelle xv., quorum nomina sunt subscripta, cum numero personarum commorantium in eisdem, mendicantibus absque fraude prout in commissione continetur

exceptis." The total is thus stated at the end: "Et sic in villa et libertate Salop computantur in totali summa tam de viris quam de feminis laicis etatis xiiij annorum, M^{l} M^{l} iiij^{xx} et iij persone, secundum computacionem ad C v^{xx}, de quibus quidem M^{l} M^{l} iiij^{xx} et iii personis dicti collectores r[eceperunt] de qualibet persona iiij^{d}, unde summa totalis recepta se extendit ad xxxiiij^{li} xiiij^{s} et iiij^{d}." The roll is endorsed with the names of the collectors in the outlying liberties, but not with their returns.* The reigns of Henry V. and VII. are blanks; for that of Henry VI. there are three or four rolls, and one for Edward IV., of a fifteenth in 1474–5; but from the time of Hen. VIII. onwards the series is very regular. The latter king's series begins with the account of a benevolence in 1522; "the names and summes of those persones that have made lone or prest of money to the King's grace the xith day of November in the xiiijth yere," &c. In the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. there are returns of collections made for provision of the royal household. The ship-money accounts form a large file in 1635–9, and include an original letter of instructions signed by the Privy Council; and in 1644 there is a small tattered parcel of returns of the monthly assessment at 4*d.* in the pound levied for the king in the months of June to September. Some papers connected with this assessment will be found below among the *Miscellaneous Papers* under the same year.

III.—Gild-Merchant Rolls.

This series is remarkable as exhibiting the record of admissions to burgess-ship in the town from the year 1209 to 1510. The genealogical information afforded by them is important, as they give the names of parents and specify the children. For 1209, xi. Joh., there are two rolls. The first is headed, "Sanctus Spiritus assit nobis. De illis qui sunt in Gilda mercand. in burgo Salop., et quorum patres pridie non fuerunt in libertatibus Gilde, anno xi regni regis J., et quorum finis est v sol. iiij^{d}." Other headings of subdivisions are, "De illis qui intraverunt gildam. De forinsecis qui intraverunt gildam, et de fine eorum. Isti intraverunt ad ultimam assisam primo." The second roll is headed, "De Gilda mercand. burgi Salop. ad quartam assisam anno xi regni regis J. in festo Sancti Bartholomei. De illis quorum patres fuerunt in gilda, unde assisa de xxxij^{d} (*not as given in Blakeway*, xxij^{d}) apponitur, et pacaverunt iiij^{d}." This is endorsed with (3) another list headed, "De ultimis qui intraverunt assisam gilde primo anno iiij^{o} regni regis H. fil. regis J. in crastino Sancti Jacobi apostoli," (26 July, 1220). These earliest rolls are now in course of being printed in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society* by Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, M.A.

4. 1232. "De forinsecis et aliis in gilda ultima intratis ad viij^{am} assisam in crastino Sanctæ Trinitatis anno r. r. H. fil. J. xvj."

5. 1239. "Rotulus de ghylda mercatorum burgo Salop. ad novam (*sic*, for "nonam"†) assisam. Primus dies sessionis fuit die Martis prox. post festum Sancti Dionisii anno r. r. H. xxiij^{o}."

6, 7. 1252. "Rotulus de illis qui quatuor denarios sunt pacaturi. Nomina Theynesmen"; twelve names. Then, "Rotulus de ghylda

---

* It is printed, with notes by Rev. G. W. D. Fletcher, in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S., II. 17–28.

† *Nonam* and *novam* are written by a careless scribe indiscriminately; generally *novam*.

mercatorum in burgo Salopp. ad nonam assisam. Primus dies sessionis fuit dies Mercurii prox. post festum Sancti Barnabe apostoli anno r. r. H. fil. J. xxxvj°." (In the figures of the regnal year the first x is nearly obliterated, and the date has hence been sometimes taken as xxvi., but Blakeway read it correctly.) There is also another roll, "De forinsecis de ghylda mercantorum (*sic*) ad assisam nonam" on the same day, in which the regnal year is written in full, "tricesimo sexto."

8, 9. 1268. Two rolls "de forinsecis de gilda mercatoria ad assisam nonam," on St. Barnabas' day 52 Hen. III., of which the second has the sub-heading, "Isti subscripti sunt qui tunc primo finierunt."

10. Another short roll of foreigners, without date.

The preceding rolls are described in Owen and Blakeway's *History*, I. 102–5, with a few errors.

11, 12. Two rolls of the time of Hen. III., distinguishing the persons who paid 3*d.*, 4*d.*, and 7*d.* respectively. These are evidently burgess-rolls, but had been placed amongst those of the subsidies. Printed, with notes by Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, in *Trans. of Shr. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S., I. 29–52.

13. A curious very small roll of the same reign contains a list of names in sections divided by crosses, without any heading or explanation, except that one section with seven names is headed "*Masuns.*" The names are these: "Willelmus de Drayton, Rogerus de Farnecete, Rogerus le Hunte, Thomas de Helecete, Willelmus Alberburi, Water de Abbeton, Thomas de Teculwardin."

14–18. Five rolls *temp.* Edw. I., of which three belong to *an.* 9, 1281, and two to *an.* 32, 1304.

19–22. Edw. II. Four rolls of his twelfth year, 1319, at the f. of St. Jo. Bapt., of which two are "de forinsecis." The "Nomina Theynesmen" occur again here.

23. One very long roll contains the lists in various years from 12 Edw. II. to 21 Rich. II., 1318–1397.

24. At the f. of St. Laurence (10 Aug.) 28 Edw. III., 1354.

25. "De forinsecis," of the same date.

26. "Eleccio burgensium facta in anno r.r. Edw. tercii xlvi," 1372. The names of the new burgesses' sons are given.

27. "De gilda mercatoria, de forinsecis ad nonam assisam," beginning on Monday after Mich. Day, 46 Edw. III., and ending on Christmas Day, 47 Edw. III., extending thus from Mich. 1372 to Christmas 1373. A long roll.

28. At the f. of St. Margaret, 8 Rich. II., 1384.

29. "De speciali gilda," Thursday before Christmas Day, 21 Rich. II., 1397.

30. "De generali gilda," Thursday before Christmas Day, 6 Hen. IV., 1404.

31. "De generali gilda," Tuesday after Conv. of St. Paul, 9 Hen. IV., 1408. The first entry here is interesting as showing in the case of an honorary admission that the ill-will which at a later period existed between the men of Shrewsbury and of Oswestry had not then arisen:

"Johannes Wele, capitaneus d'Osewestre, pro amore et bono auxilio suo burgensibus ville et communitati ac libertati ejusdem ville habitis et imposterum habendis."

32. "De generali gilda," Monday after f. of All SS., 14 Hen. IV., 1412.

33. "Burgenses facti tempore Rogeri Corbet et Johannis Perle"; *scil.* 1417–8. A very short roll.

34, 35. Thursday before f. of St. Denis M., 29 Hen. VI., 1450. Two rolls; on the second is added the list made on Monday, the vigil of St. Peter ad Vinc., 31 July, 30 Hen. VI., 1452; entered "per Johannem Phelypps."

36. A roll containing three admissions at a session on the Monday next after SS. Phil. and James, 16 Hen. VII., 1501, and six at sessions on several days in Jan., 19 Hen. VII., 1504.

37. A roll with 13 admissions on 1 Oct. 2 Hen. VIII., 1510, of which the first is that of "Robertus Sutton, alias dictus Robertus Dudley, armiger, filius Edmundi Dudley de Dudley in com. Stafford, militis."

From this date up to 1863 the admissions are found in the Assembly Books, and in several separate volumes, one of which extends from 1463 to 1758. There is a modern alphabetical index of names.

In 1632 there is a draft on paper of an agreement by the bailiffs that the free men and women of the craft of Turners shall be hereafter (as hitherto understood to be) free of the crafts of Bowyers, Fletchers, Cowpers, Stringers, Joiners, Feltmakers, and Haberdashers.

There is a parcel of petitions to the bailiffs, in number 14, with one to the Council of the Marches, extending from the end of the fifteenth century to the beginning of the seventeenth, which relate to the companies of Weavers, Bakers, Tailors, Shoemakers, Saddlers, Joiners, and Butchers. Amongst these the following may be specially noted:—

From the Shermen, otherwise called Clothworkers, praying that certain reformed ordinances, which they have had drawn by learned counsel, may be enacted, to prevent the ruin of their trade; *temp.* Jas. I.

From the Saddlers and Glasiers, complaining that, whereas the Curriers have always been freemen of their Company, certain young men now refuse to take out their freedom.

From Gyllem Wisbeche and others, joiners, complaining that Maderne Wisbecke "namynge hymself doctor of Physike" and Griffith ap Madock, wardens of their craft, admit carpenters into it; with the reply of the said Wardens annexed. For an account of a subscription made for the relief of Dr. Wisbeche in 1574, see under that date in the notes from the Registers *infra*.

Several other petitions relating to various companies will be found among the *Miscellaneous Papers*.

IV.—Municipal Registers.

I. The first record of *Acta* is contained in a paper volume in folio, called Liber A., bound in thick oak boards, and consisting originally of about 112 leaves, but some of these are now wanting, and others are much mutilated. Its period extends from the latter part of the reign of Edward III. to that of Henry VII., and the contents are of a very miscellaneous character, and are not in chronological order. The following entries will give an idea of their nature.

1. "Ordinacio processionis artificum ville Salopie in festo Corporis Christi." The companies were in the following order: Molendinarii, Pistores, Piscatores, Coci, Carnifices, Barcarii (*Tanners*), Cordewenarii, Fabri, Cellarii; Carpentarii, Flechers Cowpers and Bowers, Textores, [T]onsarii cum Barbitonsoribus, [Ci]rotecarii, [Sci]ssores. The name of one other company has been cut off.* f. 1.

On the same leaf is a list of the villages and hamlets included in the liberties of the town.

2. Ordinance, in French, of the gild merchant relating to the cordwainers and tanners; 1389. f. 1b.

3. Elections of bailiffs, coroners, and other officers. 1389–1508. ff. 1b, 9b–31b, 104b.

3. Enrolments of miscellaneous deeds and bonds; 1350–1506. ff. 1*–10, 32–37, 48b, 67, 69b, 76a, b, 78–83b, 87–8, 92b, 103b, 105b, 108, 112.

4. Ordinances regulating trade; 1502. f. 1*b.

5. Composition in 1381 for the government of the town; Fr. f. 2.
Transl. in Owen and Blakeway, I. 169.

6. Inventory of goods bequeathed by Cecilia late wife of Rich. Grafton to Cecilia wife of John Botonere of Coventry; 1404. f. 3. (Other inventories are at f. 77b.)

7. Letter to the King's Commissioners for the county pleading exoneration from taxes; 1491. f. 3b.
Ibid., 259.

8. List of plate received by Will. Pontysbury, bailiff, from Roger Mountgomery, 10 Oct. 1494, of the goods of four persons, being three standing cups, a saltcellar and two "litle masers"; *pinned to* f. 28b.

9. Articles for the government of the craft of weavers; 1450. f. 34.

10. Entries of recognizances under the statute merchant: 1372–1551. ff. 38–48, 49b–66b.

11. Lists of aldermen and assistants, *c.* 1502–5. ff. 68b–9.

12. Order that corn and malt shall only be sold publicly in the market; if sold privately, only in the form of bread and ale. f. 70.

13. Ordinance made by the Council of the Marches for the good government of the town; 10 Apr. 18 Edw. IV., 1478. *ibid.*
Owen and Blakeway, I., 231–2.

14. List of persons present at the sealing of a composition with the abbey of St. Peter, on the morrow of the Conv. of St. Paul, 26 Jan. 1513. f. 71b.

15. Ordinances made for the good rule and governance of the craft of carpenters and tylers, the Friday after the Nativ. of our Lord, 28 Hen. VI. (26 Dec. 1449). f. 72b.

16. Ordinance for the settling of disputes between members of different crafts and for enforcing obedience to the bailiffs; not dated. f. 74.

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* Probably "Pannarii." Other companies in the town were the "Vintenarii," "Alutarii," "Merceri," and "Petiliarii."

17. Two orders "touchant l'office des seriantz de la ville"; the second dated 25 Jan. 2 Hen. V. (1415). ff. 74^{b}, 109^{b}.

18. Privy seal warrant from Hen. IV. exempting Thomas Skynner for life from serving on juries; 3 Aug. *an.* 9, 1408. *Ibid.*

19. Exemplification by Rich. II. of a passage "in libro de Domesday," under the title of the land of Earl Roger, relating to the manor of Ford; 20 Nov. *an.* 9, 1385. f. 77.

20. Will of Richard Kent; Monday after the f. of St. Barnabas (16 June) 1399. *Ibid.*

21. Conveyance from Katherine Bonell, daughter of Richard Bonell, widow, to King Edw. IV. and Degory Watur, draper, of tenements, rent, &c. in the street called Mardevole, "ad sustentacionem Christi pauperum commorancium in domibus eleemosinariis de fundacione Regis predicti in cimiterio ecclesie beate Marie;" 8 Apr. 1464. f. 78^{b}.
Mention occurs here of one John Knight as Master of the Gild of the Holy Trinity of the mystery of Pannars.

22. "Ordinaunce made touchyng the taske" *i.e.* tax, "of the toun of Shrosbury," made at a common hall, 11 Dec. 1418, for better assessment than has hitherto been made by the "quillours" for the King. f. 84.

23. Ordinances for the good rule and governance of the crafts of Flechers, Cowpers and Bowers, in which each man has hitherto used "to governe hym aftere his owne lust in gret hurt and hynderynge and oppressynge of the forseyde craftes"; Tuesday after the f. of the Nativ. of our Lady, 27 Hen. VI. (10 Sept. 1448). f. 84^{b}.

24. Agreement between the preceding crafts on the one part and that of the Carpenters on the other, as to the order in the procession on Corpus Christi day of their banner, wax, and alderman respectively; Sunday before Corp. Chr., 1 Edw. IV. (4 June 1461). f. 86.

25. Ordinances for the governance of the craft of Vintners, hitherto accustomed to rule themselves after their own free will and lust; Thursday after the f. of St Michael, 14 Hen. IV. (6 Oct. 1412). f. 86^{b}.

26. Ordinances for the craft of Tailors and Skinners; not dated. f. 88^{b}.

27. Orders forbidding the buying or bringing in by any draper or other person of any Welsh cloth; 12 Apr. 10 Edw. IV. (1470). f. 89^{b}.

28. Orders restraining for one year buying and selling in any towns in Wales or in the county of Salop, except at common fairs, by the inhabitants of Shrewsbury, in order to renew the decayed trade of the town, with other regulations; 17 Jan. 15 Hen. VII. (1500). f. 91.
Two of the orders are as follows:—
"Item, it is assented that all londs, lesons and pastures within the frauncheis of the seyd towne that be not sowen with corne yerly, shall lye open and be comyne pasture, to the relief of the pore people, from Myghelmas tyll Candylmas, as it hath ben accustomed.
"Item, it is ordeigned that thenhabitants of the seyd towne shall curtesly entrete all straungers that shall resort to the seyd towne and riztuesly demeane theym in byyng and sellyng, and yf eny of thenhabitants be complayned vppon for the contrary demeanure and by examynacion so proved, to be grevously puneshed."

29. Admissions of burgesses to the gild merchant; Jan., 19 Hen. VII. (1504)—Dec., 21 Hen. VII. (1505); 11, 12, 16 Hen. VII. (1496, 1501); *c.* 29–30 Hen. VI. (1450–2); 5 Edw. IV. (1465); 28 Hen. VI. (1449); 6, 8 Edw. IV. (1466–8); 13, 15 Edw. IV. (1473, 1476); 1, 7, 9 Hen. VII. (1486, 1492–3); 13 Hen. VII. (1498); 21 Edw. IV. (1482) &c. ff. 98–107^{b}.

30. Oaths of the several officers of the town; ff. 100^{b}–101, 104^{b}.

31. Admission of Robert Bromley as recorder in 1508. f. 108.

32. Will of Thomas de la Clyve, clerk and burgess, containing many legacies; 6 Nov. 1336. f. 109.

Lying loose in the volume is a torn paper containing a representation made to the bailiffs and council in 1529 by the burgesses and commonalty "of the new fraunches," for the reformation of grievances.

II. This bound volume is followed by a series of four books, now stitched in brown paper covers, containing the record of the assembly of the Common Council (called "Assemblacio* Communis Consilii") from 7 Oct., 24 Hen. VII. (1507) to March, 31 Hen. VIII. (1540), but the years 1512–1520 are wanting.† They often afford little more than the lists of names of the persons present, lists of the gilds making annual payments, admissions of burgesses, and elections. Some original petitions and memoranda are occasionally pinned in the books.

1510, 8 March, 1 Hen. VIII. "Consilium precedens *aggreati* sunt quod si forte aliqua magna et periculosa affria pacis aut insurreccio riotosa facta [sit]," then all the inhabitants shall be bound to assist the bailiffs.

1525–6, 17 Hen. VIII. Statement of journeys made by Richard Atkys to London and other places on the business of the town, in some dispute with Worcester, "as yet unrewardyt for his labour." Four pounds are ordered on 12 Oct. 1526 to be paid to him. He is again employed afterwards.

1534, 16 Oct. Agreed that £20 be paid to the burgesses of parliament out of the common treasury.

1535, 13 Oct., 27 Hen. VIII. "They be aggreed that provision shalbe provyded; an oxe, a couple or ii of swannes, a dossen capones, a couple off calves, a hoggeshed of wyne." This (as appears from Owen's and Blakeway's *Hist.* I. 317) was for the entertainment of the dukes of Richmond, Norfolk, and Suffolk.

1537, 26 Apr., 29 Hen. VIII. The waits hired for the year following, to have such livery as heretofore hath been used.

1537, 15 June, 29 Hen. VIII. A letter to be sent to Mr. Robert Dudley, burgess in parliament, to stay his suit against the bailiffs concerning the writs which he brought for his wages.

——18 June. Order to prepare for reception of the Commissioners of the Marches. (Owen and Blakeway, I. 321.)

—31 July. Mr. Newton's house to be bought for the Lord President.

1540, 9 Jan., 31 Hen. VIII. "They be aggreed that there shalbe suyte made unto the Kynge and his Counsell, by mediacion of my Lord President and Mr. Justice that the Abbey may stand and remayne, to receyve the prince's grace or any other nobilite of the realme that shall resorte to this towne, and also concernyng the franches called the

* This word is usually written in a wrongly contracted form as "Assiliaco," but when written at length is "Assemblacō," and even "Assumulacō."

† The elections in these years are, however, found in the book of admissions of burgesses marked B.

Abbey franches in maner and forme as the same is now used, to be had and obteyned to this towne, to be used as the other suburbes be."

—— 29 Jan. A reformation to be sought at London of the wrongful and excessive toll taken at Oswestry. (Further orders about this matter in March.)

III.—The stitched parcels are followed by a thick volume, bound in parchment (of which the flyleaves are fragments of a MS. breviary, doubtless from one of the destroyed monasteries) containing 397 leaves, and extending from 28 March 1553 to 5 Feb. 1584. Some entries relating to the reign of Philip and Mary, with many for the earlier years of Elizabeth, follow the 21st year of the latter; apparently from the business of the Court of Aldermen and assistants and that of the Common Council being entered separately.

1553. The news of the King's death on 6 July must have reached the town tardily, for the 12th of July is said to be in the 7th year of King Edward (or else the uncertainty as to his successor may have made the Town Clerk judge it safest to retain his name), when order was made that six householders from each ward should watch the towngates, with one of the aldermen or common-councilmen each night in turn as captain. Even the 23rd July is said to be in 7 Edw. VI., when it is ordered that 24 men should be in readiness to serve the King's grace if needful, according to the accustomed old use and ordinance; but here "king" has been struck out and "quene" substituted.

——, 29 Sept. Ordered that no burgess living outside the town, and not contributing to its charges, shall have any voice in the election of burgesses for Parliament; and that Mr. Reignold Corbet, recorder, shall be one of the burgesses for Parliament so long as he is recorder, if he will take it upon him, "for that it ys supposed to be incident to his office of recordarshipp." f. 5^{b}.

——, 4 Oct. Suit to be made for the uniting of the East "Foriett" and the site of the monastery to the liberties of the town. f. 6.

——, 30 Oct. The recorder's opinion to be taken as to the lawfulness of electing any person who may be abroad for a burgess of parliament, and whether any person may lawfully "labour" any burgess, to gain his good will. f. 11.

1554, 7 Nov. T. Mytton and George Lye elected burgesses for parliament. f. 234^{b}.

1555, 6 Aug., 19 Sept. Orders respecting agreement with Mr. John Richemund for setting forward the conduit and bringing water to the town. ff. 14, 235. Further orders in 1557, ff. 23^{b}, 24^{b}; 28 March, 20 May, 21 June, 27 Dec. 1567, ff. 99, 92, 264, 93.

——, 4 Oct. Nicholas Pursell and Reignold Corbett, esquires, elected burgesses for parliament. f. 236.

1556, 16 May. The bailiffs to set forward the stage play this next Whitsontide for the worship of the town, and not to disburse above £5 about the furniture of the play. f. 18^{b}.

——, 31 Oct. The bailiffs or others "to heare and bringe furth a honest able and discreate person which will and can serve the office and service of a head scolemaister of the Frescole, and that shalbe allowed and thought meate . . . . by the aldermen and counsaile"; and

the bailiffs are then to "avoyd John Eyton now scolem[r] gyvinge hym one halfe yere's warnynge," and that he shall have for his stipend and wages from Michaelmas last not above £14 by the year.

1557. 23 Jan. The day bell to be "rongen" throughout the whole year at St. Julian's at 4 o'cl. f. 239.

——, 18 June. "Sessours" appointed for levying of the fee of Mr. Thomas Mytton, late burgess of parliament, being £8 13. f. 22[b].

1558, 14 Jan. Nich. Pursell and George Lye elected burgesses of parliament. No person to labour, or cause or procure any labour to be made, to be burgess before the writ be read to the commons then assembled for election, [or else to be excluded from election.] f. 241.

——, 10 June. Order of the millers that no corn be ground for any man except they have also the grinding of his malt. f. 27.

——, 15 Oct. Roger Lewys, alderman, fined 6*s.* 8*d.* for making request to the bailiffs on behalf of one Thomas Clerke now remaining in ward for misdemeanour. f. 28.

——, 9 Nov. On account of the terrible fires that have happened of late within the town, by occasion of a great number of faggots of gorse and broom being piled and kept within or near houses, it is ordered that no baker keep in his house, or within 60 yards of any house, more than twenty such faggots, and no other person more than six. f. 29.

1559, 7 Aug. Agreed that the goods, stock, money and jewels of the four parish churches within the town shall be utterly employed, converted, and put to the use of the poor only from henceforth. f. 33[b].

——, 27 Dec. Mr. Justice John Frogmorton, *alias* Throgmorton, to be chosen recorder in place of R. Corbet. f. 38[b]. Formally elected 16 Aug. 1560, f. 42[b]. Patent sealed 4 Aug. 1562, f. 54[b].

1560, 26 March. Order for the furniture of 48 able men presently appointed to the Queen's service northward. f. 40[b].

1560, 5 July. Order by the Council of the Marches in a suit heard before them upon a claim for an annual payment of 40*s.* from two pastures called Cow Leasow and New Land, part of the grange of Attincham in the county of Salop, and late parcel of the possessions of the abbey of Lilleshall, bequeathed by Alice Hosyer (the plaintiff's mother, to whom he was executor) to the poor folk of the Almshouse of St. Mary and St. Chad in Shrewsbury. f. 390. Followed by original receipts for quarterly payments from 10 Oct. 1568 to 7 Apr. 1571. ff. 392[b], 393[b].

1561, 21 June. Thomas Assheton with one other learned schoolmaster to enter [upon the School] at this Midsummer, and for stipend, until certain leases be expired, to have 40*l.*, and for an usher 8*l.*; and when the leases fall in, Mr. Assheton, then finding another schoolmaster and usher, to have a patent of all the tithes belonging to the School, paying 8*s.* annually to the Queen for the chief rent, and keeping the schoolhouse in repair. f. 45[b]. Further order about the tithes, 24 June. ff. 46, 243[b].

1562, 24 Nov. A collection to be made, partly "wherewith the sergyantes may be recompensed yn the stydde of the offerings they had yn churches." f. 57.

1562, 22 Dec. Robert Ireland, esq., and Richard Pursell, gent., burgesses for parliament. f. 249.

1563, 26 March. The house wherein the Council of the Marches lie when they come to Shrewsbury let to the Lord Stafford, but reserving the use for the Council and the justices of assize. f. 60.

——, *not dated.* Richard Hygons sent to London to endeavour the discharge of the town from the pressing of 36 soldiers. f. 61b.

——, 6 April. Sessors appointed to levy 30*l.* 14*s.* for the fee of George Leyghe, several times burgess for parliament. f. 249b.

——, 24 July. Wine and horse-meat to be provided for the Lord President of the Marches on his coming to the town. f. 62. Other orders, 18 Oct. 1567, f. 97; 1 Aug. 1568, f. 103; &c.

——, 16 Sept. Order about the refunding of 33*l.* collected for 21 soldiers who were impressed to go to Newhaven, but are returned. f. 63. Further order, 5 Dec. 1564. f. 74.

Not dated. Agreed that a proclamation be fixed upon the gates of the town, that if any inhabitant go to the city of London or any other place where the plague doth remain that he shall not return, or come within four miles of any part of the town or franchise, before two months be fully ended after his being there, and that no one shall receive any lodger, or take in any wares, apparel, or household stuff, from any place where the plague remains, upon pain of disfranchisement. f. 65b.

1567, *not dated.* Levy for three soldiers to serve in Ireland. f. 91b.

——, 22 Aug. Roger Lewys, *alias* Pope, degraded from his "room of aldermanship, for causes reasonable." f. 265.

1568, 8 Jan. Ordered that Mr. Asheton shall have the setting of the living appertaining to the Free School, when the leases are expired, according to his petition.

Of this petition a copy, attested by Adam Mitton, the town clerk, is subjoined, in which Asheton desires to be allowed to "set" the property as he thinks good, his devise being allowed under the common seal when he has first been sworn not to alienate one penny from the use of the School, but that all shall be employed for the discharging the wages of the Schoolmaster and the reparations of the School, "which in few years will be no little thing," and for the sustentation of the children going from the School to Oxford and Cambridge, an account being yearly made to the bailiffs, aldermen, and common council. f. 266. 8 Oct. Further order, allowing the same, and specifying the tithes. ff. 110, 111.

1568, 26 Feb. On a bill of complaint from the Carpenters and the answer of the Joiners, it is ordered that the Joiners be made of the company of the Bowyers, Fletchers, and Cow[p]ars. f. 100.

——, 12 Aug. Decree of arbitration by the Lord President and Council of the Marches for the settlement of great disputes relative to the elections in the Corporation. To this the autograph signatures of all the members are attached. ff. 106-8.

——, 1 Oct. Order (with eleven signatures) respecting the disputed election of John Ap Owen as alderman. f. 109.

1569, 26 May. Ordered that every one who has been a bailiff shall wear his scarlet gown on Whitsunday, the Sunday after election day, Allhallows day, Christmas day, New Year's day, Twelfth day, Candle-

mas day, and Easter day, upon pain of 6*s.* 8*d.*, and that all aldermen and common councilmen shall be ready in the street to wait upon the bailiffs on those days at one o'cl., upon pain for the former of 6*s.* 8*d.* and for the latter of 3*s.* 4*d.* f. 119[b].

——, 9 July. Bequest to the town of 200*l.* by Robert Allen. f. 122[b].

——, 7 Sept. The bailiffs, or their deputies, to wear on every Sunday, holyday, court day and fair day, and also at such time as they welcome any man of honour and worship coming to the town, a velvet tippet whereby they may be known, upon pain, on default, of 3*s.* 7*d.*, and also to have an able man to wait upon him with a bill, who shall be called by the name of a bill-bearer. f. 123[b].

——, 5 Oct. Every alderman within three months after his election shall buy and wear a scarlet gown at such times as are limited, for the worship of the town, and every bailiff shall buy and wear a scarlet gown both for himself and his wife. f. 124.

——, 5 Nov. A good and perfect survey to be made of all encroachments without license, and of all stoppages of ways and lanes. f. 125.

1570, 18 March. A certain chapel called St. Nicholas Chapel, with a parcel of ground adjoining, in a street called the High Pavement, to be let to Richard Onslowe (Attorney of the Court of Wards) at the yearly rent of 2*s.* 6*d.* f. 128. Confirmed 8 July. ff. 130, 272.

——, 19 April. The six *Sessors* "now commonlye called *Sytters.*" f. 272[b].

——, 18 June. Orders made by the Council of the Marches in a case heard before them at Shrewsbury between some of the shearmen and certain drapers, concerning the dressing of Welsh cloths called Welsh cottons, &c. f. 385. See *infra*, 8 Nov. 1571.

——, 8 July. The survey to be begun upon the 19th of this month. f. 130.

——, (8 July). Lease to be granted to three persons for ten years of a certain pasture called "Behind the walles, exceptinge the Quarrell where the plases [*plaies* *] have bine accustomyd to be usyd," on condition that they bring by a lead conduit the water or spring called "Brodwalle" to the High Cross, there to remain in a cistern of freestone in such sort as may have continuance. f. 272. Further order about the conduit, 21 June, 1571. f. 274[b]. Other orders, 1573. ff. 165[b], 166[b].

——, 14 Sept. Lease to Rich. Onslowe of a piece of ground whereon the smith's forge stands adjoining the Chapel of St. Nicholas, and also a void piece of ground between the forge and a tenement called Knight's Place, at a rent of 3*s.* 4*d.* instead of 2*s.* 6*d.*, and "agreeinge with the poore man." f. 273.

1571, 23 April. At the request of the Council of the Marches, 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* granted to Serjeant Bodyley, serjeant-at-arms before the Council, in recompence of his good service in the Queen's wars. f. 138b.

A certificate to be made "unto the Parlyament house for the dyssolvinge of one braunshe of a statute [*an.* 8. concerning drapers] concernyng that all the burgesses of this towne and liberties myght be as fre as any other person of this realme to bye Walshe clothes in the towne of Oswestrye or elswhere out of this towne and fraunches, and so to carrye

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* *See infra*, in the Bailiffs' Accounts for 1515–16.

the same to the cytie of London or to any other place at there pleasure, as they have bene before thys tyme accustomed." f. 139. 1572, 24 April. The commonalty moved to agree to the "certificate" for the repeal of the statute, which is carried by a majority. ff. 153b, 277, 277b.

1571, 31 Oct. The town to have a lease from Rich. Onslowe for 60 years of the house commonly called "the Counsaile house," with the Chapel, paying yearly 53*s.* 4*d.* f. 146.

——, 8 Nov. Proceedings at Hereford before the Council of the Marches in a suit between the shearmen and drapers of Shrewsbury, with articles of agreement thereupon. f. 388.

——, 20 Dec. Payment of charges for obtaining the grant of the Queen's Majesty concerning the Free School. f. 276.

1572, 29 Sept. Two aldermen displaced for not being continual dwellers. f. 158^{b}.

1573, 10 Feb. The arch of the Welsh bridge, commonly called the draw-bridge, to be made up either with free stone or timber. f. 166.

——, 26 March. Christopher Hanckehurst, clerk, to have a yearly stipend of £5. f. 282. 30 Oct. In consideration of his travail and service in the preaching and administration of God's word hereafter to be done as he heretofore hath done, to have an annual stipend or fee of 5*l.* in augmentation of his living, until he be promoted to some better living. f. 181^{b}.

——, 3 April. Ordinance respecting election of aldermen. f. 168^{b}.

1574, 26 April. Agreement that Maderne Wysebecke shall, in consideration of his painful travail and pains taken with the inhabitants, have a yearly annuity according to promises of contributions made by the aldermen, &c., severally. A petition lies loose in the volume from Maderne Wysebecke, physician, setting forth that he and his wife have lived in the town for 22 years, and to the best of their powers and cunning have spent their time in such art and science as is well known, and in giving their advice to such patients as have required it of them, as well to the poor as to the rich, and in especial to the poor, they have sought little or nothing at all. Now being somewhat in age, and not so well able to travail for the getting of his and her living as before, but willing here still to remain to their best endeavour as before, and being charged with rents, and also greatly charged in buying of books for better knowledge and learning, which is a dead stock, they pray for some annuity, for God's love. The petition is endorsed with a list of subscriptions, amounting to 22*s.* from 28 persons. ff. 187–8.

——, 14 July. "Agreed that the occupation of millners shalbe maynteyned as an occupation, as they have bine accustomed, accordinge to there composition, in all things lawfull." f. 189^{b}.

——, 26 [*and* 29 *interlined**] July. Eleven persons appointed together with the bailiffs to peruse the orders of the Free School, and to make relation what they think thereof, and if they doubt of anything, then to take the advice of Mr. Prince. f. 190.

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* Occasional alterations of date appear to have been caused by the town clerk's writing out beforehand under the days on which the meetings were supposed to be going to be held, the list of names of those entitled to be present, and then by correcting the date when the days were altered.

1577, 15 Aug. Ordered that whereas there is a place set up in the High Street near the "Sexstrye" in the freehold of Mr. Thomas Mackworth, for the conduit ("conducte") to run there, it shall not remain but presently be pulled down, as being set up without the licence of the bailiffs and commons. f. 191.

——, 13 Oct. 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* given to William Croft, gent., at the request of the President of the Council of the Marches, in consideration of his great losses; two new burgesses to be admitted in order to provide the money, and the surplus of their payments to be applied to the boarding and finishing of "the newe house." f. 192^{b}.

——, 6 Nov. Mr. Hawkhurst to have 5*l.* more of yearly stipend until such time as better provision may be made for him. f. 193^{b}.

——, 13 Dec. Order, signed by Robert Pigott, Arthur Maynwaring, E. Leighton, and Robert Nedham that the town of Salop furnish six armed men, viz., two harquebusiers, armed with burgonett, sword, dagger, and other necessaries, one pikeman and two billmen, armed with corslets, swords, and daggers, &c., and one bowman, with "skolle," bow and arrows, sword, dagger, &c. An acknowledgment by George Higgens, esq., one of the bailiffs, on 14 Dec. that he has received from Sir Andrew Corbet, knt., the following parcels of armour towards the furnishing of the six men, viz., three corslets complete, whereof one with pike and two with halberds, two calivers complete, with their furniture, with flasks, touchboxes, and two "murreyns," with one skull for a bowman. *pinned to* f. 195^{b}.

1575, 12 Feb. The arch of the Welsh bridge to be repaired. f. 195^{b}.

——, 3 June. Ordered that no business be entered upon at any meeting until the minutes of the last meeting have been read. f. 200.

——, 17 July. Five marks to be given to Mr. Churchyard for his pains taken in setting forth the show against the Queen's coming, being sent hither by the Lord President. f. 203^{b}.

1576, 14 March. The walls, bridges, towers, and council-house to be repaired. f. 207. Again on 6 May, 1577. f. 213^{b}.

——, 12 Oct. The bailiffs who shall henceforth have the disbursing of the legacy of Robert Allen, alderman, deceased, shall provide sureties for the same. f. 211. Further order 16 Aug. 1577, f. 215.

——, Country bakers, not being free with the bakers, to be restrained from selling bread within the town, provided that the town bakers serve the inhabitants according to their promise made in their petition, and according to the price of corn from time to time. f. 211^{b}.

——, 9 Nov. Mrs. Hawkhurst to have 10*l.* in discharge of the fee due to her husband in his lifetime. f. 290^{b}.

——, 13 Nov. (7 Dec. *interlined*). Order respecting the levying of a cess towards the relief of the diseased. f. 212^{b}.

1577, 6 May. The book made for the benevolence towards the maintenance of a preacher to be looked up, and they that were appointed for that purpose shall take some pains for the finishing thereof, and thereupon to have the same collected for the good purpose it is given for. f. 214.

——, 16 Aug. Whereas it is requisite to have a court kept weekly, letters to be written to Mr. Thomas Owen for his advice herein. f. 215^{b}.

1574, 17 Aug. Edward Clark, butcher, to be "disgrated" of his burgesship for the disorder and misusage that he hath committed against Mr. bailiff Dawes. f. 291^{b}.

1578, 9 May (22 June *interlined*). Warning to be given to the aldermen and common councillors to assemble on 1 July for the displacing of such of the aldermen and councillors as are to be displaced for their "non resyancie" (non-residence), as also for defaults that shall seem reasonable cause. f. 221. (There is no entry of any business done on 1 July although a meeting appears to have been held.)

The bailiffs shall enter upon the castle-gates and prisoners, and "expulse" all the sheriff's prisoners, and take the keys into their possession, within three days after the next assize; and no sheriff shall hereafter have or keep any prisoners within the said gates and prisons at any time. *Ibid.*

The bailiffs shall take advice of Mr. Prince, or some one that is learned, what is the best course for suppressing the "inmattes," idle persons, drunkards, and others that, being men of occupations, give themselves to idleness, drunkenness, and all disorders. f. 221^{b}.

——, 19 Aug. Robert Prebell, free-mason, lately in work with Edmund Cornwall, esq., offers to take in hand a piece of work for the covering of the fountain or cistern of the "conduct" at the end of the Fish Street, and the little conduit at the Wyld Cope, with free stone according to a plat or pattern by him now shewed. But forasmuch as he is a mere stranger and unknown to the bailiffs, and cannot, being a stranger, find the sureties they require, he offers to take the work in hand, and finish it before 20 Oct. next at the furthest, for the sum of 20*l.*; and for the payment of his workmen to take but twenty marks, after xxxiij^{s} iiij^{d} a week, until the work be finished, and upon the finishing to receive the residue, being twenty nobles; and enters into covenants for performance. f. 223.

——, 25 Aug. A letter read from Mr. Robert Corbett for the granting of the town's interest in the Council House; he is to be informed of the state thereof. f. 224^{b}.

——, 27 Sept. Survey of the conduit ordered. f. 227^{b}.

——, 28 Sept. Settlement of a suit which had been depending in the Court of Star Chamber for seven years respecting the election of George Proud as alderman on the death of Edward Hosyer, esq. f. 229. (Other suits about elections are noticed in several places.)

1579, 23 Jan. (1 Feb. *interlined*). Mr. Thomas Burnell commissioned to go to Dr. Bonckley to move him, by the desire of the bailiffs and the schoolmaster, to accept the cure of St. Mary's, which is now destitute of a curate. f. 232. [*See under* 21 March 1580.]

1 Feb. Forty pounds, bequeathed by Thomas Nicolls for the maintenance of a preacher in St. Chad's for ever, are paid to Thomas Burnell, gent., and he enters into a bond of 100*l.* for the making assurance of £4 6*s.* 8*d.* for ever to the use of a preacher out of his lands. f. 232^{b}. 8 Sept. The indentures of the assurance to be sealed. f. 337^{b}.

Agreed that Mr. Burnell take some pains at Coventry for the obtaining copies of orders and instructions for the laying out of the money bequeathed by Mr. Rob. Allen to the use of poor occupiers of the town. *f.* 232*b.*

Agreed that the councillors shall buy for themselves before Pentecost next a gown of "murrey in graine," and shall wear it on days appointed to wear scarlet, upon pain of 20*s*. f. 233.

——, 17 July. Order for sealing indentures with William Jones, William Hearing, and Richard Gardner, for the making of the conduit heads. f. 295.

——, 23 July. Agreement with Arthur Mackworth (admitted a burgess together with his father William) for the digging turf and stone in any of his lands for finishing the conduit head. f. 295^{b}. *See also* f. 336^{b}.

1580, 21 March. Agreed that a bond of 500*l*. be given to Dr. Bulkley to secure payment to him of 52*l*. yearly. f. 297. (Again entered at f. 340 and at f. 345^{b}.)

——, 20 June. Sir George Bromley, knt., justice of Chester and of the Marches, elected Recorder, with the yearly fee of 4*l*. f. 347^{b}.

——, 29 July. Four soldiers to be sent to Ireland at a cost of 6*l*. f. 358.

Whereas Thomas Blackwood, deceased, bequeathed 200*l*., or thereabouts for the purchasing of some living for the maintenance of a preacher within the parish of St. Chad, agreed that the said money shall be employed in the purchasing of the tithes of the parsonage of St. Chad's, in fee simple, for ever, viz., the Easter box of the said parish, the tithes of wool and lamb of Franckvill and other small tithes, the tithes of all the lands lying behind the walls, between the Welsh Freers and the other Freers commonly called Freer London, and the tithes of the great Mouncke Yee. And whereas the said tithes are leased to John Lewis, draper, for the term of ten years yet to come, it is agreed that the bailiffs with six other gentlemen shall deal with the said Lewis for the buying of his lease. f. 348^{b}. *See under* 4 Apr. 1581.

——, 17 Oct. Whereas motion is made concerning the fines of the common councillors for not wearing their murrey gowns, and because objection is made that the said colour of cloth is not to be worn by the laws of this realm, therefore the most number are agreed that the advice of the Recorder shall be taken at his next coming whether the said colour of cloth may be worn by law or not, for want of ability according to the statute*. . . . . And then order to be taken for establishing or disannulling of the former agreement. f. 349^{b}.

Agreed that William Wilks, servant to Adam Mitton, gent., town clerk, shall, in respect of his pains taken in writing certain cases for the town, be admitted a free burgess, paying 20*s*. in hand, and 20*s*. yearly until the sum of 5*l*. be paid. f. 350.

The mixen in Rowsell let to John Dawes for 30*s*. yearly, on condition that the dung be not carried thence over any of the bridges with any iron-bound wain or cart. *Ibid.*

——, 28 Oct. Agreed that the bailiffs shall send for the wardens of the butchers, and take order with them that their company sell tallow after the rate of 10*s*. or 10*s*. 6*d*. a quarter. And if they refuse, then the bailiffs shall take their composition from them, and presently make proclamation that all foreign butchers shall come in and sell at their pleasure. And all the tallow chandlers to sell candles for 3*d*. a pound.

* The latest statute regulating apparel, which repealed preceding statutes, was 24 Hen. VIII., cap. 13.

And if the butchers stand obstinately in the said cause, then the bailiffs shall deal with them as extremely concerning their forfeitures by composition. f. 352.

——, 16 (30 *interlined*) Dec. Agreed that the bailiff shall take with the assistance of six of the best parishioners of St. Chad's and three from every other parish, a survey of all the poor people in the town and liberties, and shall assess what weekly charge will serve for their weekly relief; and then shall sess all the inhabitants what weekly charge each of them shall pay, and shall make a register book according to the form of the statute in that case provided; so that the bailiffs deal no further herein than the said statute will warrant them to do. f. 353.

And whereas there was gathered of certain occupations the sum of 6*l.* 5*s.* towards the furniture of Dr. Boulkley's house, the said money shall be presently given to him, and the other occupations that have not as yet given any money shall be sent for, and order taken for the payment of the residue according to their promise. f. 353[b].

The Lord President at his coming with the Council shall have half a tun of Gascoyne wine "to pleasure them withal." *Ibid.*

There shall be given to the wayte-men new coats of broad cloth, of the colour of orange tawny, in respect of their pains-taking to play every morning. *Ibid.*

1581, 10 March. A dinner shall be made to the President and Council. f. 354[b].

——, 4 April. 114*l.*, together with Black[wood]'s money, to be paid to Thomas Owen, esq. [of Lincoln's Inn] for a grant to be made by him of the tithe of certain pastures, parcel of the late college of St. Chad, viz. a pasture called Behind the Walls, another pasture called Great Mounckeye, another called Sturnes Close, and all other pastures comprised in a lease whereby one John Lewis now occupies the same, together with the Easter book (*sic*) and all manner small tithes mentioned in the same lease. f. 355.

——, 4, 8 Apr. The pasture land Behind the walls to be ploughed, and sown, and the profits for the next three years to be employed towards the purchasing of all those tithes of the college of St. Chad contained in a lease of John Lewis, to the use of a preacher within the said parish of St. Chad. ff. 298[b], 355[b], 356.

——, 13 Apr. Further agreement that eight persons named shall have the said lands for two years rent-free, with the tithes for their own use, on condition of paying down at once 114*l.* for the purchasing of the tithes of St. Chad's. ff. 299, 356[b].

——, 15 Apr. The charges of the bailiffs in a suit brought against them "before Mr. Controller at London for matters touchinge two lewd fellows that had aucthoritie togeather [*to gather* ?] for the Quene's Bench and Marshallsie," to be borne by the town. f. 357.

Whereas the Lord President intends to keep St. George's feast in this town, a fat ox shall be given him. *Ibid.*

——, 25 July. A letter to be written to Mr. Thomas Owen requesting the assurance of the tithes of St. Chad's, and that as John Lewis will not yield to reasonable order or agreement the corporation look to have the bargain made with Owen. f. 357[b]. An order relating to this assurance dated 15 Aug. 1587 is at f. 395 (*loose*).

Whereas Richard Shurlow, mercer, was bound in 10*l.* for the good order and rule of the house of John Bushop who was admitted to sell ale, and has forfeited his recognizance by means of evil servants, it is agreed on his submission that the bailiffs and the six [men] shall take such fine as they think reasonable, and that he be discharged. f. 358. [Several other fines are also partially remitted.]

Richard Purcell, gentleman, ordered to pay 20*l.* for arrears of a sum of 40*s.* due from him yearly to the poor people of the town. *Ibid.* Bond to be given for payment of 5*l.* half-yearly. f. 360.

——, 26 Aug. 5*l.* to be given to Sir George Bromley, knt., and to Edward Leighton, esq., in respect of a marriage now solemnized between their children, in such things as they shall best like of. f. 359. The bailiffs and the six men shall likewise bestow such sums as they shall think meet upon Mr. Henry Bromley, being son and heir to the Lord Chancellor, and other gentlemen of W[orship] coming to the town. *Ibid.*

——, 14 and 22 Sept. Dr. Bulkley to have 10*l.* given him in respect of his pains taken in preaching, and to be admitted a free burgess, paying the ordinary fine. ff. 299^{b}, 360.

Five pounds to be given to the parishioners of St. Mary's towards the repairing of the decayed windows. ff. 299^{b}, 360^{b}.

——, 4 Oct. 15*l.* to be paid to Mr. Robert Ireland, esq., in full discharge of 42*l.* 8*s.* due to him as burgess of parliament in the first, fifth, and fourteenth years of her Majesty's reign, to be paid as follows: 10*l.* to Mr. Ireland, 50*s.* to Dr. Bonckley's eldest son, and the other 50*s.* to employed upon the pavement in "Mardwall." f. 300. A writ dated 13 Jan. an. 10 [1568] summoning the bailiffs to pay 10*l.* for his expenses, at 2*s.* per day, in attending the parliament in the fifth year, lies here loose.

1582, 20 Apr. "Articles for the quieting and stay of some varians and division like to have insued in the election of counsellors," agreed upon "by the mediation of Mr. Dr. Bulkley and Mr. Richard Barker"; with twenty-three original signatures. Lying loose in the vol.

——, 3 Aug. A cessment to be made of all the inhabitants for levying of 200*l.* for a stock to remain for the corporation for the maintenance of the public preacher, if Mr. Justice Bromley shall think well thereof. f. 363.

——, 9 Sept. John Tomkis, M.A., elected preacher in the room of Edward Bulkley, D.D., who recommended him; having held the place since the f. of St. John Bapt., he hath showed himself to be a faithful pastor and profitable teacher in the church of God. It is agreed that he receive the stipend of 52*l.* partly depending upon voluntary contributions and partly upon the raising of 30*l.* out of the town funds, together with the 20*l.* paid from the Free School as yearly stipend to the minister of St. Mary's, now held by Mr. Tomkis and his curate. He is not to be absent for more than a week at a time without licence of the bailiffs, nor to give over the place without reasonable cause allowed by them, f. 365; (or give half a year's warning, f. 366^{b}).

——, 12 Sept. Twenty-six persons to be admitted free burgesses, each of them paying 5*l.* besides all fees; and none hereafter to be admitted except on payment of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* besides all fees. The money now received to be applied to no other use but the maintenance of the

public preachers and further money to be raised in some way to make up the amount to 300*l.*; f. 300^{b}. Payment to be made to Mr. Tomkys, the public preacher, of 52*l.* yearly, until further order be taken by Sir George Bromley, recorder, and Thomas Owen, esq., for the raising the payment by the disbursing of the above 300*l.*; and in the mean time the particular contribution to be gathered. f. 301.

"The six men called the vi *sitters* shalbe *cessors*" for admittance of the twenty-six burgesses. *Ibid.*

——, 20 Sept. Fourteen more burgesses to be admitted, to make up the above 300*l.* for the preacher. ff. 301^{b}, 367.

——, 29 Sept. Twenty more burgesses to be admitted, whose payments are to be added to the 300*l.* received "for the last *sixty* burgesses" for the maintenance of the public preacher. ff. 302, 367^{b}.

——, 9 Oct. The nine attorneys now in the court of the town to hold their places for life, and not to be displaced without reasonable cause; but in future the number is not to exceed eight. f. 368^{b}.

——, 11 Oct. Any person who shall abuse or misuse any bailiff, magistrate, alderman or councillor, shall be punished at the discretion of the bailiff for the time being. f. 369.

Thomas Backhouse, a prisoner now remaining in ward for fines of divers frays and bloods and other misdemeanors, shall be set at liberty with a lock on his foot, and to work at his house or other places for maintenance of himself, and to pay weekly twopence toward the discharge of the said debt, if the debt may by this means be levied; otherwise to be pardoned. *Ibid.*

——, 12 Oct. 400*l.* to be lent out by the bailiffs for one year at the rate of 10 per cent. f. 369^{b}.

——, 10 Nov. Richard Gardner to have 5*l.* yearly to keep the conduit in repair. f. 370.

1583, 8 March. 10*l.* to be given to the Lady Sidney, to be employed upon such necessaries at the discretion of the bailiffs, as shall be to the worship of the town. f. 373^{b}.

——, 18, 27 Apr. Ordered that 23*l.* borrowed for the charges of a suit before the Privy Council concerning the stapling of cottons and frizes at West Chester be repaid to the lenders, and that twenty marks be bestowed upon a piece of plate to be given to the Lord Chancellor in recompence of his good will to the corporation in the said suit. f. 374^{b}.

——, 11 July. No one to be hereafter admitted to the office of town clerk but such a one as hath proceeded to the degree of an outer barrister at Inns of Court; he shall be continually resiant, and not to serve the office by any deputy without special licence. f. 375.

1583, 19 Sept. Order that the 400*l.* raised for the public preacher be yearly lent out by the bailiffs together with eight others. ff. 303^{b}, 376^{b}.

The great house called the Council House granted to Roland Barker, esq., for such term and interest as the bailiffs and burgesses have in it, he keeping it in repair and paying all such rents and duties as are payable, and removing when the Council of the Marches shall come here, and returning on their departure. f. 304.

ff. 305–327 *are blank.*

1584, 5 Feb. "The most numbar of this assembly be agreed that Mr. Bayliffes shale write there letters to the L. Presydent for the ansureringe of his l. letter conserninge the vyadge into the land of America [*the expedition of Raleigh to Virginie*] in suche sorte as the same is nowe written by the advice of Mr. Prince." f. 379b.

1560–1614. List of burgesses specially made in compliment, from 19 Sept. 2 Eliz. to 6 Oct. 12 Jac. I. f. 397 (*loose*).

1623, 21 Apr. Sir William Herbert, knt., Sir Percy Herbert, his son and heir, bart., and Sir Basil Brooke, knt., to be admitted burgesses without paying any fine or fee, on account of their love and goodwill to this corporation, expressed in the cause lately depending before the Privy Council between this town and the town of Oswestry concerning the freedom of market for Welsh cottons. f. 396 (*loose*).

IV. Upon this volume there follows such a gap in the records of the proceedings of the Corporation that it seems hardly possible that the missing books can be altogether lost, but that some portion at least may be lying *perdu* elsewhere, unless they were burned in a fire that occurred in 1881 at the Shire Hall where the records are kept.* For the next volume begins at the year 1736. There appears to be very little in it, or in the subsequent volume, that is of more than purely local interest.

1744, 31 Aug. A decree recites the ordinance of Edw. VI. that the scholars of the Grammar School should attend church every Sunday, particularly any church where there should be a sermon, and goes on to state that in course of time in consequence of the inconvenience caused by the great increase of numbers, the Schoolmaster applied to have a chapel at the School, and that two decrees in Chancery in 11 and 21 James I. provided for the application of 20*l. per an.* from the revenue of the School as a stipend for some sufficient person, who was to be appointed by the bailiffs and chief schoolmaster to read divine service in the Chapel and catechize the scholars on all Sabbath days, holy-days, and half holy-days. But whereas it appeared that no person had of late been appointed to this office, it was ordered on 7 March that the mayor apply to the Schoolmaster, Rev. Leonard Hotchkis, to join in a nomination, which he had refused to do, alleging that he himself was the catechizer, having been appointed some years ago by Edward Twiss, esq., then mayor, and himself. Such appointment, however, not being conformable to the orders and decrees above mentioned, and Mr. Hotchkis not pretending to have performed the chief duty of the catechizer in reading divine service, it is ordered that the stipend of 20*l.* be not henceforth paid to him or any other for his use, but be retained until a proper person shall be appointed. (On 7 March Mr. Hotchkis had been called upon to resign the living of Uffington, which he had accepted contrary to the regulations of the School.)

1775, 6 Oct. Address to the King on the rebellion in America.

V. The next volume begins on 3 Oct. 1788 and ends in 1820.

1803, 30 Sept. 500*l.* voted for the repair of "the venerable and magnificent building called the Market House," and for building a new staircase in the recess on the east side. f. 139.

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* A "Book of Orders" is often referred to by Owen and Blakeway during the Civil War period. It must have been lost, therefore, since they wrote.

1805, 10 Dec. Address to the King on the naval victories, and on the death of Nelson, "which alone could add a ray of glory to his transcendant merits." f. 146.

1814, 9 June. Presentation of the freedom of the town to General Lord Hill, in a gold box, and to his five brothers, with his reply to the address. ff. 186^{b}, 188^{b}.

1814, 15 July. Petition against the clause in the treaty with France sanctioning continuance of the slave trade for five years, with vote of warmest thanks to Will. Wilberforce, and to others. f. 190.

1820. In this year gas was introduced into the town 6 Oct. A petition to the Prime Minister on behalf of Lieut. James Atcherley, of the Marines, a burgess of Shrewsbury, who served at Trafalgar, &c., asking for his appointment as tide surveyor or coasting waiter, with copies of certificate from Sir Israel Pellew and Adm. M. de Courcy. ff. 230^{b}, 231.

VI. The next volume extends to the year 1835.

V.—Bailiffs' Accounts.

There is a very large series of these, for the most part in good condition, beginning apparently at the fortieth year of Henry III., 1256. In many years, however, the rolls are fragmentary, often containing only the receipts from the bridge tolls, and the dates are often only to be ascertained from internal evidence. The early accounts are made up weekly, on Sunday; the first roll which has a date, that of 40 Henry III., begins, "Recepta die dominica proxima post festum beati Petri ad Avincula (*sic*), et expense operatoribus in quarrera" (now the town-park, still called the Quarry). The receipts are from the tolls at the gate of St. George, the gate beyond the bridge, the gate towards the abbey, and the castle gate, severally amounting to 9*s*., 6*s*., 5*s*. less one halfpenny, and 12*s*. 1*d*. "Alanus Shitle et Eug. le Colier erant custodes muragii recepcionis et deliberacionis hujus rotuli, et Ricardus filius Herberti scripsit recepta et deliberaciones tunc temporis." There is one roll of this king's time which is altogether undated, and may very probably be the earliest. A roll which belongs to *an.* 44-5 (1260–1) is very long, and is chiefly occupied with work on the fortifications of the town, caused by the barons' war. A new tower is built "sub castro"; much stone is dug in the quarry and carried thence by boat for building the wall at "Garewald" and the wall at "Gatepol"; the gate of St. Rumold, or, as it is also called, at "Romoldsham" is built; and the following entries show the reason for the work and hence determine the date of the record, which otherwise does not appear. "Ad lignandum quarellas subscriptas et corrigendum alblastra ville, xiiij^{d}, scilicet Willelmo le Alblister. . . . Willelmo Alblastario ad essendum in servicio ville dum contencio durat inter dominum regem et consilium suum et omnes magnates Anglie, xiiij^{d} in illa septimana, et ad lignandum prædictas quarellas." The roll has a very early endorsement that it, together with two others, is "de tempore Ricardi fil. Herberti," a name not found in the printed list of bailiffs. In those others, together with one more, are found the following entries: "Mem. quod Alanus fil. Gamel accommodavit communitati ville xvii xx^{ti} lapides liberos de quarrera in septimana prox. post f. S. Barnabe apost. anno r. r. H. xliiij. [1260]. In hac die convencio facta fuit cum magistro Alano et Johanne Gymel, cementariis, de muro apud Gatepol, scilicet pro c pedibus iij l., de quibus

denariis primo pacatum est eis x sol." Alan Gamel lent also one mark to the town.* Work was done at the house of the Friars Preachers at the charge of the town, and money was also given them. In the beginning of July 1265 (49 Hen. III.) sixpence is given "cuidam garcioni cunti apud Herford ad ascultandum rumores," which would be shortly after Prince Edward's escape from Hereford. For the reign of Henry there appear to be altogether the accounts for eleven years between 1256, or earlier, and 1271.

For the reign of Edw. I. there are only the accounts for the fifth, seventh, and twenty-ninth to thirty-second years. But there is a very interesting *Coroners' Roll*, extending from the f. of St. Nicholas, 6 Dec. 1295 to Sept. 1306, and containing 58 inquests of felonies and accidents before John Russel, William Rondulf, and Thomas Colle, the coroners, including many cases of drowning in the Severn. In the following nine cases criminals who had gained sanctuary abjure the realm, Dover being assigned as the port for their departure. John son of Peter for killing Arthur Russel was eight days in sanctuary at St. Chad's. Thomas Ouayn of Ydeshale, escaping while being taken to prison for thefts, was two days at St. Alkmund's. John le Forrier, for killing Adam de Kyderminster, was ten days at St. Chad's. Walter son of John del Zoke for killing John Seys of Chyrk, broke from prison and was ten days at St. Mary's. William Godbert of Wolstaneston escaped while being led to prison for killing Adam de Rokleye, and was ten days at St. Mary's. Zareford Vaghen of Egardeleye for burglary at the house of Thomas de Hyntone, was thirty days at St. Mary's. His chattels consisted of a cart-horse worth half a mark, and a sword worth 12*d.* with a knife worth a halfpenny, but John de Colushull, the proctor of the dean of St. Mary's, refused to give up to the coroners the sword and knife. Nicholas Cogeweyn of Wemme was led to St. Alchmund's, where he stayed for three days, by John Dun, for killing Henry de Cardestone; Dun was committed to prison. William son of Roger de Stanwordin in le Feld for burglary at the house of Joca of Little Boulewas, was at the church of Moele Bracy. John son of Thomas Baldewin, for killing Roger Wythed, was at St. Mary's for four weeks and two days. Two cases are recorded of the deaths of fugitive felons while being pursued. John Dugyn, a thief, broke prison, "et exivit circa horam ignitegii, et obviavit cuidam garcioni qui vocatur Ricardus de Clone, qui quidem Ricardus statim levavit hutesium . . . ad quod hutesium levatum venit Johannes Lawe, custos prisone predicte, et vidit predictum Johannem a prisona predicta evasum, et fugientem sequebatur post eum cum hutesio, et in fugiendo amputavit capud ejus." In the other case a priest was one of the felons concerned: "Johannes de Lastres, capellanus, et Mauricius de Glovernia indictati fuerunt coram Ricardo de Harleye, tunc vicecomite Salop, et capti fuerunt pro pluribus latrociniis, et ducti ad prisonam castri Salop, et dictam prisonam noctanter fregerunt, et evaserunt extra predictum castrum. Et Nicholaus de Wyhleye, constabularius castri predicti, hoc percipiens, prosecutus est eos usque ad libertatem ville, et in fugiendo occidit predictos Johannem et Mauricium tanquam felones domini Regis. Sepulti per Johannem Russell coronatorem." There are two executions by hanging. John son of Henry Rylot meeting William Gothin Cokabytestret, fought with him and killed him with sword-cuts in the head, and fled through the postern called Seynte Chadde lode; but he was taken and hung, and the inquest as to his goods returns him as owner of several houses with some land.

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* Some of these entries are noticed in Owen and Blakeway, I. 123-4.

And Nicholas le Keu was hung for extensive robbery of horse, pigs, barley, oats, &c. in the house of the Master of the Knights of the Temple in Shrewsbury. The street now called by the singular name of *Mardol* appears here under the form *Mardefole*, and that now called *Shoplatch* as *Schoteplace*, and in 1280 as *Scheteplache*.

For the reign of Edw. II. there are rolls for years 2–5, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18–20, with fragments of six others which probably belong to this reign. The weekly receipt accounts begin now to be made up on Monday instead of Sunday. In *an.* 2, 3, 1309, entertainments are given to Sir Roger de Mortimer, to the Countess of Cornwall, to Sir Hugh de Croft the sheriff, and to Sir Miles de Rodberewe and Sir Richard de Harley coming as the justices, together with others. Courtesies ("curialitates") of this kind are of constant occurrence in all the rolls. There was a law-suit with the abbey, continued in the following year, to conduct which William le Serjaunt went to London. The roll for 1310–11 is chiefly occupied with the expenses of building the Gild-Hall.* The coroners are Peter Gerard and Roger Prido, who pay 20*s.* to the Exchequer for a horse of Sir John Strange ("extranei") which was drowned. The names of the parliamentary burgesses, about which for the year 1311 there has been some doubt, are from the following entries ascertained with certainty. "In allocatione duorum equorum allocatorum ad opus Ricardi Pryde et N. le Spicer apud London. ad parliamentum tentum anno v^{to}, vii^{s}. Lib. Nicholao le Spicer et Ricardo Pride ad parliamentum tentum apud Lond. anno v^{to}., lxviij^{s}. vij^{d}."

For the long reign of Edw. III. but few accounts remain; only partially for the years 4–8, 10–13, and 33, with portions of several rolls of uncertain date. In the first of these, for 1330–1, there are payments to the burgesses in parliament; to Roger Pride 30*s.* and 4*s.* for a horse, to Richard Russell, "pro parliamento," 10*s.*, and to Richard de Walleford, "pro feodo suo de anno preterito 1 marc."

Richard II.; years 12, 17, 20. The last one, "de tempore Johannis Geffrei et Jacobi Dyghere, anno xx" (these being the bailiffs in 1396) is an interesting taxation roll, giving apparently the names of all the householders with their assessment, some noted as dead, and some as "insuffic."; it is endorsed with a few entries of payments.

Henry IV.; years 2, 4, 10 and 13. In the roll for 1400–1 there are entertainments twice for the players ("histriones") of the Prince and the earl of Stafford, and once for the "menstralles" of the earls of Worcester and Stafford. One hundred shillings were paid to Roger Atton "pro suo regardo, et pro suo magno labore quem fecit pro communitate ville domino Principi et concilio suo ad exonerandum ccclxxii homines de viagio cum dicto domino Principe in partibus Walliæ." In 1408–9 the players of the countess and earl of Arundel, of lord Powis, lord Talbot, and lord Furnivall are rewarded. Four pounds are paid to John Scryven and Thomas Pryde "pro expensis ad parliamentum de Gloucestre," and one shilling a day to each of them again for eleven days at the same parliament; and 53*s.* 4*d.* to them for going "versus Regem pro pardonacione subsidii habenda," a journey which achieved its object. At the marriage of a cousin of David Holbache players were

* Owen and Blakeway mistook this roll for one of the third year of Edw. I., and consequently assign to 1276 entertainments which were given in 1310; Vol. I., pp. 138–9. The date is determined by the change of regnal year being made in the month of July, as well as by the handwriting. And by the same mistake the building accounts are printed with the date of 1275 in Vol. III. of the *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S., 41–92.

entertained "in honorem ville," at a cost of 40*d*. A very large quantity of red and white wine was given in various presents. The roll for 1411–12 contains payments of salary and expenses to coroners.

Henry V. Only for his seventh year, 1419, and one that may be for 1421 or 1422. In the former there is an entry of 2*s*. 9*d*. paid for two flagons and three quarts of red wine "die amoris inter discordiam existentem inter Johannem Perle et Willelmum Forster." Other examples of reconciliation, "dies amoris," effected over liberal potations, occur in other rolls. There is also an interesting private roll for 1413–4 of Roger Skyle, chaplain, of his receipts and payments as the receiver for William Venables and Isabella his wife, who, it appears, lived in Mardol at Shrewsbury, there being an entry of twelve pence paid "pro reparacione domus magistri sui apud Mardefole." Many sums are paid on account of dame Isabella, mostly described as being for old debts; and Skyle receives 12*d*., 10*s*., and 6*s*. 8*d*. "pro stipendio suo, divina celebranti."

Henry VI. Years 2, 5, 11, 12, 14–17, 21–26, 28–31, 33, 36–38. In the roll for the 15th year, 1436–7, parliamentary expenses are thus entered: "Sol. Thome Thornes (*the mayor in this year*) uni burgensium elect. &c. cum Willelmo Boerley de Salop pro parliamento tento apud Westm. xxi die Januarii anno xv regis H. vi^ti, in partem solutionis vad. ejusdem Thome apud parliamentum eundo et redeundo, et ibidem existentis per lxxiii dies, vicesimo primo die Aprilis, iiijl. xii^d.* Sol. Will. Burley de Salop (*steward*, "seneschallus") uni burgensium Salop. elect. pro parliamento tent. &c. in partem solucionis vad. suorum, &c. lxvj^s viij^d. Item Will. Boerley, uni burgensium ville Salop [&c.] pro expensis suis apud London ad parliamentum, xiij^s iij^d." The minstrels of the Earl of Stafford receive 6*s*. 8*d*. and wine. "Pro uno pouderboxe eneo ad pulverizandum libros infra aulam communem ab [Will. Burley] emptum, in scaccario remanente, vjd." In 1437–8 William Boerley and John Falke are the coroners. Livery is given to two town minstrels "voc. *waytes*" who in 1442 are styled "histriones," a term probably applied to minstrels as mingling some rough acting or dancing with their music. To the roll of 1438–9 is attached a voucher for 10*l*. given to Richard Boerley, one of the bailiffs, and William Forster, the town-clerk, on their going to London in the matter of a law-suit with the Abbot of Lilleshall. There are two rolls of fines in the court of "Pi-poudre"; a short one in 1435, and a long one, much defaced, in 1436–7. In 1142 William Bastard† and Robert Whytcombe were burgesses in the Parliament held on 25 Jan. Ten shillings were given "histrionibus Regis" and payments to those of the Earl of Shrewsbury and others occur frequently in subsequent years, including one "voc. Trumpet." In 1443–4, "pro vino dato Whitchecote et aliis generosis venientibis ad sepulturam fil. Christophori Talbot, militis, x^d." At the Parliament in Feb. 1446 Richard Stury and William Boerley of Bromcroft were burgesses. In that year the Duke of York visited Shrewsbury. 1447, William Bastard and Thomas Beget are the burgesses in the Parliament at Bury. 1448, "Deliberat. Johanni Water et Ricardo Tunerver (?) pro edificacione gurgitis subtus Coton in plenam solucionem facture ejusdem, xl. Johanni Smethecote, valetto Regis, qui habet aquam Sabrine per literas patentes dicti Regis, vi^s viij^d." In every year at this period the payments for entertainments and gifts "pro honestate ville" are very numerous. An annual payment occurs of two shillings

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* Thorne's name is not included in the list of burgesses in Owen and Blakeway. Will. Burton in Owen and Blakeway.

"pro besaundes [*bezants*] in Scaccario ex consuetudine de antiquo." 1449–50, Thomas Yonge is common, or town, clerk, and John Callerall, in other rolls called Calverall, the crier. A pipe of red wine was given to the Duke of York upon his coming to the town from Ireland on 12 Sept., and players and minstrels were employed on the occasion; and in 1451 the same present is made him on his coming for the sessions in July. In the latter year he sends venison, and then 24*s.* are spent "in comedendo carnes ferinas supradictas in presencia ballivorum et aliorum proborum virorum pro honestate ville"; and 16*s.* 4½*d.* were in like manner spent upon the eating three does given by the Earl of Shrewsbury, who with his countess came to the town. In this year John Phelyps is town-clerk, 1452, William Bastard and Richard Stury went to the King, the Chancellor, and others, to obtain letters patent and a charter "pro illis qui indictati fuerunt proditores ad sectam domini Regis," receiving a reward for their labour of 6*l.* 13*s.*, and a like amount was given to Sir John Talbot, Knt., for his good offices in the same cause. These traitors were no doubt those who had marched from Shrewsbury to Blackheath with the Duke of York.

1458–9, Payments of 3*s.* each were made to the keepers of the clocks striking the hours in the churches of St. Alkmund and St. Chad, including in the latter case "le chyme." Much repairing was done to the Welsh bridge. A pottle of "Tyre" wine (a name met with also in an earlier roll) was given with two flagons of red wine to lord Dudley, and two flagons of red, "voc. Ruynysche wyne," together with one flagon of white, to lord Powys. There was a good deal of trouble in this year about an illegal arrest of one Geoffrey Sotheworthe, for which some persons were indicted at Stafford. The Duke of York sent a letter to Roger Corbet, esq., of Morton, for the arrest of Hugh Cartwright and two others of the county of Lancaster, "qui jacuerunt in incidiis ad interficiendum diversos homines ville," and the capture was effected, and Hugh Cartwright and Henry Moleners were hung at Wenlock. Wine was given to various knights, esquires, and gentlemen of the Duke of York and his son the Earl of March. The following entries, some of which have been printed by Owen and Blakeway,* bear upon the civil war. "Sol. pro expensis Johannis Oliver equitantis ad castrum de Kylyngworth propter certa negocia villam tangencia, v^{s}. Pro expensis Johannis Phelypps et Johannis Oliver equitantium cum quatuor equis ad villam de Notyngham ad loquendum cum Rege et diversis ibidem pro responc. litere predicte [*a letter to the town from the King*], xi^{s}. Duobus hominibus equitantibus ad scrutand. de interfeccione diversorum hominum interfectorum per comitem de Salusbury juxta Drayton, et ad scrutandum de itinere ejusdem comitis, ij s. iiij d. Sex hominibus custodientibus le *veyle* vocatum le *weche*, diatim per septem [dies], quilibet eorum cap. iiij d. per diem, apud portam Wallie et castri, xiiij s. Tribus hominibus apud portam lapidcam quinque dies, modo supradicto, ij s. viij d. Tribus hominibus operantibus circa portam vocatam le Bulgerlode per duos dies, ex convencione ingrosso facta, ij s. xd." Many other repairs and additions were made to the fortifications, "pro tuicione ville." "Sol. Johanni Vryen equitanti per octo dies per duas vices propter rumores inter dominum Regem et ducem Ebor. vj s. viij d. Pro expensis Lod. Mychell equitantis modo consimili per sex dies, v s. Pro expensis Thome Bromley et Willelmi ap Rees et aliorum equi-

* The entry quoted by them, I. 226, from the accounts of this year about night patrols as evidencing the alarm felt at this time from the war, is an entry found several times in earlier rolls in this reign, as well as in years afterwards.

tancium ad dominum Ducem Ebor. cum litera et responcione eidem duci, vj s. viij d. Pro una vexilla empta pro *le daye weche* in campanile ecclesie beate Marie, ix d. Pro conductione unius equi conducti pro Johanne Cartwright equitante ad Drayton ad scrutandum de prelio inter comitem de Salusbury et dominum de Awdeley, xvj d. Pro expensis Johannis Vrien, Ricardi Upton, Lod. Michel, equitancium [ad] diversa loca propter rumores de domino Rege, et aliorum dominorum existencium apud villam de Worseter tempore insurreccionis, xiiij s. ij d. Pro expensis Roberti Dalton et Johannis Olivere exquitantium (*sic*) modo consimili, vj s. Pro expensis Johannis Vryen et Willelmi Carpenter modo consimili, iiij s. viij d." 1460. The extant rolls are almost entirely those of receipts, but an endorsement with a few other particulars has one entry relating to the war and one of its decisive battles. "Sol. ballivis pro expensis lxi hominum conductorum pro servicio domini Regis ad villam de Northampton, viij l. xiij s. iiij d."

Edward IV. For this reign the rolls with some portions of the accounts, chiefly of receipts, are numerous; years 2–3 to 21–2, including a short Chamberlain's (Rich. Marchall's) roll for 5–6. Up to the fifth year inclusive there are, however, only toll and other receipts. 1466–7, "Sol. pro vino dato domino le Ferrers tam in hospicio suo duabus vicibus quam in taberna apud concordiam factam inter Ricardum Stury, Johannem Trentham, et Johannem Hoord in presencia ballivorum et aliorum generosoram cum dicto domino existencium, pro honestate ville, v s. vij d. Sol. diversis soldariis conductis ad equitandum cum comite Wygorn. precepto domini Regis ad castrum de Dynbygh, lxxix s. ij d."; and for their livery vi s. vi d. John Trentham and John Hoord received 3*l.* 10*s.* as burgesses in parliament.* "Sol. xl soldariis conductis cum vadiis et gagis illis datis in servicio domini Regis cum comite Wygorn., precepto domini Regis, ad castrum de Harelagh, ut in litera dicti domini Regis plenius apparet, xviij^{li}. Pro expensis Jevan Lake equitantis propter rumores quando Ricardus Tunstall et alii de castello de Holt apud Wryxham, v s. Pro quodam regardo dato . . . Tylere pro diversis custis et expensis factis per Dan. Williams . . . supervidendum si Ricardus Tonstall, miles, et alii quidam . . . de Harelagh proponebant aliquod malum huic ville an non . . . (*mutilated*). 1469; "Sol. cuidam nuncio destinato et misso ad civitatem Ebor. ad scrutandum de rumoribus domini Regis, x s." 1479–80, "Sol. pro uno forseto empto ad imponendum cartas et munimenta ville, xij d." 1480–1, Roll of fines imposed in the Great Court, for trespasses, encroachments, obstructing highways, unlicensed selling of beer, &c. In bailiffs' account: "Pro una libra cumini solut. domino de Pymley pro comunia habenda in bruera de Pymley, iiij d." 1482, Six does were sent by the Duke of Buckingham, and to make pasties of these six bushels of flour were bought for 10*s.*, three pounds of pepper for 6*s.*, and two bushels of salt for 1*s.* 6*d.*

Richard III. Three rolls for his first year, 1483–4: "Sol. pro uno pixide empto ad imponendum cartam ville pro conduct. ejusdem ad parliamentum, vi d."

Henry VII. Years 9, 10, 13, 17–23, chiefly accounts of receipts from tolls, &c. 1493–4, *an.* 9, "Pro vino expendito super venerabiles de concilio domini Principis ad suum reventum de Northwallia, x d." The

* Not in Owen and Blakeway's list.

roll for the tenth year, 1494–5, contains many entries relative to entertainments at the visit of Prince Arthur and the King in that year, which are translated and largely annotated in Owen and Blakeway's *Hist.* I. 261–7; they are of an ordinary kind, and therefore do not require repetition here, unless it be this one: "Pro vino dato domino Principi ad ludum in quarell, cx s. (*not* cvi) iiij d." The accounts for the 18th year (and partly those for the 22nd) are on a paper sheet (injured by damp) instead of a parchment roll, and extracts from these relative to the intercourse between the town and the Council of the Marches are printed in Owen and Blakeway, I. 274–5, of which the most interesting entry is the following: "Sol. Henrico Blakemere pro pictura proporcionis ville ostendend. Consilio domini Regis, xij d." In that volume are also printed at pp. 279–282 extracts from a curious diary, in English, of expenses, kept by Richard Lyster on two journeys to London on the business of the town's dispute with the Abbot in May and June *an.* 22, 1507 (not 1506 as printed). It is written on five small folio leaves of paper, and is greatly injured by damp. Since the time when the heading was copied for the above book it has become almost entirely illegible. The journeys occupied four days each, and places stopped at for lodging or refreshment were Shiffnal, Hampton, Birmingham ("Byrmycham"), Coventry, Dunchurch, Daventry, Stony Stratford, Brickhill, Dunstaple, St. Alban's, and Barnet.

Henry VIII. From the accession of this sovereign the parchment rolls are confined to the accounts of receipts for tolls, stallage, &c., in a very imperfect series, while summaries of these are entered with the expense accounts in paper books, headed "Visus Compoti," which from exposure to damp are in a very mutilated and injured condition, some so tender as to crumble when touched. Of these there are the years 1509–13, 1515–8, 1519–20, 1522–7, 1530–1, 1532–3, 1534–8, 1540–1, 1542–3, and 1546–7.* In 1509–10 the burgesses in Parliament were the two bailiffs Roger Thornes and Thomas Knight, who had £10 for the expenses of 50 days. "In salmone, lampredis et vino datis in exhinnio dato reverendo in Christo patri episcopo Herfordensi, vj s. viij d. Pro pixide ad imponendum supplicacionem deliberandam cancellario domini Regis, 1 d. In diversis personis conductis ad portandum vinum commissionariis domini Regis ad abbathiam, vij d." Two entries in this year (with similar ones in following years) prove that still, as noted before, the term "histriones" was used indiscriminately to designate minstrels, for rewards of 10*s.* and 20*s.* are given "histrionibus" of the earl of Shrewsbury and of the King respectively, and then in both instances follow payments for wine given "ballivis et aliis probis hominibus audientibus melodiam eorum." 1510–11. A list of 64 cases of affrays for which fines were inflicted.

1515–6. "In regardo dato nuncio domini Regis portanti et nuncianti eis novos et jocundos rumores de nativitate principisse et filie dicti domini Regis, vj s. viij d. Pro vino dato abbati de Hylton, doctori theologie, predicanti apud Salop quarta dominica XL^me^ hoc anno ante nonam diei et post nonam ejusdem diei, xx d. (*He preached again in the following year.*) Pro mundacione de le Tolshop ac ornamento ejusdem cum sirpis et ramis viridibus pro honestate ville ad nundinas, iiij d.

* Many short extracts from these are printed by Owen and Blakeway, but often without distinctly specifying the year to which they belong. The majority of the entries now given are not, however, to be found there. The accounts for 13 Hen. VIII., 1521–2, quoted by the historians at p. 295 do not appear to be now in existence. The interesting note about William More, the King's lute-player, quoted at p. 327, probably was taken from that year's book, as it has not now been met with.

(*This entry occurs a second time in the same year, and afterwards in the following years.*) In vino, pomis, waffers, et aliis novellis datis et expenditis super abbatem Salop et famulos suos ad ludum et demonstracionem martiriorum Feliciane et Sabine martirum in quarera pone muros, iij s. In regardo dato lusoris (*sic*) ejusdem martirii tunc temporis hoc anno, x s." All the corn-crops of Thomas Burges of Newton were reaped and carried away by order of the bailiffs "eo quod idem Thomas Burges felonice interfecit quendam Irishe apud foriettam monachorum apud Salop, ut dicebatur."

1516–7. "In regardo dato nuncio domini Regis portantis literas domini Regis de insurreccione et correccione apprenticiorum civitatis London., xl d. Pro spintris emptis ad figendum papiros circa capita xj. perjuratorum, ex precepto domini Regis, puplici penitencia in foro Salop. correctorum, 1 d. In vino dato Inceptori fratrum heremitarum ordinis S. Augustini predicanti in ecclesia S. Cedde, viij d. (*In* 1523 *the Provincial preached.*) In expensis factis per subballivos et famulos suos euntes ad Acton Reignold ad pacificacionem, cujusdam magne affraie pacis et insurrectionis racione, ij s. iiij d. Pro redditu resoluto cantarie S. Katerine in ecclesia S. Alkmundi pro opellis carnificis, xxiiij s."

1517–8. "In vino expendito super tres reges Colonie equitantibus in interludio, pro solacio ville Salop in festo Pentecost., iiij d. Et in vino dato abbati Salop et famulis suis ad generalem processionem in festo Corporis Christi, pro honestate ville Salop, xviij d. ob."*

1519–20. A reward is given to Ralph Hubard minstrel of lord de "Mountegyle," and he receives it again in 1525–6 together with one Lokkett. A hogshead of claret for the commissioners coming from Ludlow cost 33 s. 4 d. "In regardo dato iiij^{or} interlusoribus comitis Arundele ostendentibus ballivis et comparibus suis diversa interludia, vj s. viij d. Et in vino dato eis et aliis extraneis personis intuentibus interludia, ultra denarios collectos, iiij s. iiij d. In denariis solutis et datis sagittatoribus de la Stondart certis diebus dominicis, videlicet, quolibet die meliori sagittario 11 d., et secundo meliori sagittario 1 d., ij s. Pro virgati (*sic*) panni linei de canabo, necnon pro pictura sex duodenarum capitum leopardorum pro signis utendis per pauperes colligentes elemosinas, xviij d. In expensis factis per ballivos circa correccionem Roberti Wright, famuli Thome Legh, positi super pilloriam pro parvo latrocinio per ipsum facto, eo quod felonice furatus fuit tres denarios argenti de clamide imaginis beate Marie juxta fontem in ecclesia S. Cedde, et fugando dictum Robertum extra villam, xiiij d. In regardo dato nuncio domini Regis portanti commissionem dicti domini Regis pro duplicibus vigiliis observandis dummodo idem dominus Rex fuerit in partibus transmarinis, ij s. In via caritativa et elemosinaria dat. gardiano et conventui fratrum minorum ville Salop. ad reparacionem de novo garnarium (*sic*) granorum conventus in ruina, x marc." A list of burgesses admitted in1519 is in a paper book containing also notes of proceedings in the courts in 1519–23.

1522–3. "De finibus quorundam tensariorum pardonatorum racione tam paupertatis quam de essendo suo in servicio domini Regis modo guerrino, ij li. Pro copia litere domini cardinalis misso (*sic*) commissariis domini Regis circa mutuum habendum, xx d. In vino expendito per communem clericum ville super Lodowicum Hanmere et alios deliberand. ei libros ex mutuo facto domino Regi, vj d. (*other entries respecting the loan*). Pro una rota pro communi compana pulsanda,

* Several notices of dancing bears from this year onwards are quoted by Owen and Blakeway. Gifts to bearwards are of frequent occurrence in earlier accounts.

xij d. In regardo dato joculatori dom. Regis, vj s. viij d. Et vino dato doctori ordinis Fratrum Prædicatorum predicanti in ecclesia collegiate S. Cedde, ix d." At the end of this year's account is a list of various household goods taken in distraint for fines, which is given also in 1519–20 and in other years.

1523–4. "In regardo dato ij nunciis dom. Regis portantibus literas de pace inter dom. Regem et Regem Francorum, iij s. iiij d. In vino dato domino Powysie ad magnam sagittacionem, inter dictum dominum et ballivos et alias personas honestatis ville, xviij d."

1524–5.* "Sol. pro pulsacione magne campane ecclesie S. Alkmundi pro mane surgentibus, iiij s. Pro custodia Jevan ap Morgan felonis, interfecti apud Horton quando fugam fecit post feloniam per ipsum factam, ultra xij d. habitos pro apparatu suo, viij d. In expensis factis per ballivos ad triumphum post capcionem Regis Francorum, in ignibus, vino, et pulsacione campanarum, xix s. iij d. In regardo dato nuncio dom. Regis portanti novos rumores, ij s. Pro expensis vigilancium Thomam Jebbessone, fugientem ad domum fratrum August. pro felonia, viij d. (*His goods were seized, as being a fugitive.*) In regardo dato vigilatoribus capientibus et producentibus illicita recia vocata *carthonnes*, iiij s."

1525–6. "In regardo dato custodi cameli dom. Regis ostendenti ballivis et comparibus suis joca illius cameli, iij s. iiij d. In galone vini data doctori Duffhill gardiano Fratrum Minorum ville Salop. post sermonem ejus factum, x d. Dat. clerico ecclesie S. Alkmundi pro labore suo in pulsando magnam campanam ibidem ad horam quartam in aurora tempore hiemali pro proficuo ville, iiij s. Dat. interlusoribus domine principisse, x s." (also in the following year and in 1531). There is in this year a diary kept by Adam Mitton and Richard Atkys of their expenses in a four days' journey to London and their stay there, and of a second journey, about a law-suit with the city of Worcester. The line of road followed was the same as in the journey made in 1507 *supra*.

1530–1. "In galone vini dato uxori Rogeri Thomas, unius ballivorum, in adventu suo de patria ad villam, pro honestate ville, xvi d. Pro uno ferro signato cum littera A ad comburendum personas abjurantes regnum in palma manus, iiij d. In novo instrumento posito in parva aula ad recipiendum urinam personarum ibidem mingentium, xii d.": (*see* Owen and Blakeway, p. 297 *n.*)

1532–3. "In expensis factis in garniamentis, liberatis, et histrion[ibus] pro dom. abbate de Marham tempore mensis Maii pro honestate ville hoc anno, vj^{s}. vij d.† Sol. Thome Eton pro factura

* The accounts for this year are quoted by Owen and Blakeway, p. 296 *n.*, as being for 1522.

† Other notices of this jesting pageant, of a character like that of the Abbot of Unreason, are given in Owen and Blakeway as follows. The accounts of 1521 from which they take their earlier instance appear now to be lost. "1521. Sol. pro una roba nova depicta, sotularibus, et aliis necessariis regardis et expensis factis super Ricardum Glasyer, abbatem de Marham, pro honestate et jocunditate ville, vj s. ix d. In regardo dato postitori communis campane circe villam pro proclamacione facta pro attendencia facienda super Abbatem de Marham tempora Maii hoc anno. j d. 1542. Sol. pro reparacione et pictura ornamentorum Abbatis de Mayvole, iiij s. iiij d. Et sol. pro una toga de nova facta dicto Abbati de Mayvole, vj s. j d. Sol. Ricardo Glasier pro labore suo in ludendo Abbatem de Mardall, vij s. iiij d. 1547, 1 Edw. VI., Regardo interlusoribus ludentibes cum domino Abbate de Marall, vij s. iiij d. Sol. Johanni Mason. peynter, pro pictura toge pro dicto domino Abbate de Marrall, xij d. 1551, 5 Edw. VI. Sol. domino de Abbott Marram et pro apparatu eorum, videlicet pro calciamentis, tunicis et aliis vestibus, viij s. iiij d." In the neighbouring village of Meole a similar pageant in the mock election of a Mayor "survived into the present century."

unius mansionis [*in the Quarry*] cum duobus stagiis pro dom. Presidente et ballivis tempore ludi septimana Pentacostes, ij^{s}. In regardo dato lusoribus ad dictum lusum pro reparacione ornamentorum suorum, xx s. [*Other notices of the players.*] Sol. pursatori [*l.* pulsatori] de daybell, et stipendio sacerdotis celebrantis missam S. Georgii diatim circa horam quartam in aurora, xiij s. iiij d."

1534–5. "Sol. pro custis et conduccionibus equorum ad conducendum vibrillas et alias ordinaciones guerrinas dom. Regis versus partes Hibernie, per mandatum dom. Regis, ij s. x d. Pro emendacione de la tubbe in magna aula ubi omnes persone mingunt, iiij d. In regardo m[agistro] Brandon, joculatori dom. Regis, vij s. x d. In regardo dato histrionibus extraneis melodiam et cantilenas eorum coram ballivis et comparibus pronunciantibus, viij d."

1535–6. The dukes of Richmond and Norfolk were entertained in great state in this year.* "Pro uno instrumento ad supponendum libros in Scaccario, cum quodam inclusorio pro scriptis vulgariter vocato *a dexte* cum diversis cophinis, ij s. ij d. Pro vino dato doctori Wall predicanti et declaranti verba divina coram communitate ville, v d. Sol. moneta data Ricardo equitanti versus commissionarios circa novos rumores de domina Anna nuper regina, xi d. Pro tribus mattis ad subponendum pedes ballivorum et sex sessorum in Scaccario sedencium, iij d."

1536–7. "Dat. in regardo Thome Matheus et Johanni Palmer de Bewdley pro labore et benivolencia suis trahentibus mercimonia de Bristollia ad Salop per rivulum Sabrinæ, v s. [*Similar entries later.*] Dat. in regardo Provinciali Fratrum Predicatorum predicanti et pronuncianti verbum Dei per totam ebdomadam Rogacionum, x s. Pro tortis et wafurnes [*and afterwards* vino] datis doctori Legh [visitori (*sic*) Regis], per ballivos, xviij d. [*and* xxd]. Sol. Priori fratrum Heremitarum ordinis S. Augustini ville Salop ad reparacionem domus sue ei concesse per communitatem ville, iiij li."

1537–8. "In regardo Humfrido Hulston, nuncio domine regine, portanti literas suas ballivis ville ad nativitatem domini Principis, vj s. viij d. In elemosina ac regardo dato Johanni Marshe de Colham egrotanti de peste, et pro custodia egrotorum ibidem ne infective perambularent villam, xvj d. Duabus mulieribus pro scrutacione egrote puelle per mandatum ballivorum, ij d. Pro vij c. de oystres datis domino Presidenti, ij s. iiij d. Uxori Johannis Jouks pauperis pro scrutacione egrotorum per mandatum ballivorum, ij d. Pro vino expendito ad nativitatem domini Principis, ij li. iij s. Cuidam juveni, ad instanciam Johannis Packynton, unius commissariorum dom. Regis, ad emendum camisiam, xx d. Rogero Philipps, goldsmyth, pro argento et emendacione colarium histrionum ville, xiij s. iiij d."

1540–1. "Pro vino dato suffraganeo domini Presidentis predicantis in ecclesia S. Alkmundi et aliis predicatoribus hoc anno, ij s."

1542–3. "Sol. pro responso exhibito commissionariis dom. Regis querimonie Thome Lee, Thome Sturye, et aliorum circa solucionem stipendii burgensium parliamenti ad ultimam sessionem, ij s. Et sol. pro copia replicationis eorundem, iiij d. Sol. pro una supplicacione per Robertum Broke, jurisperitum, concepta ad exhibendum domino Regi pro ereccione domus nuper monasterii Salop in collegium sive liberam

* The word omitted as illegible in Owen and Blakeway's quotation at p. 317 is "panibus."

scolam, vij s. vj d. Et sol. Humfredo Dickers clerico dicto R. B.* pro scripcione ejusdem supplicationis bis, ij s. Eidem Humphredo pro scripcione ejusdem supplicacionis in pergameno, xx d. In vino dato capellano dom. Presidentis predicantis apud Cadogans Crosse uno dierum Rogacionum, vj d."

The entries throughout the reign of Henry for amusements and entertainments are very numerous. Minstrels, actors, jugglers, and bear-wards with dancing bears (described as "agitatio ursorum") never failed in gaining rewards and in furnishing occasion for wine-drinkings to the bailiffs and their associates.

Edward VI. The receipt rolls exist for years 1, 3, 4, 6, 7. The expense accounts are in paper books, and in these the fourth and last years are wanting. There is also a small parcel of bills and drafts of accounts.

1546–7 (38 Hen. 1 Edw.) "Sol. iiij^{or} clericis parochialibus ecclesiarum ville, necnon pro pictura armorum domini Henrici nuper Regis Angliæ, ac pro vasto et factura ciriorum, ac pro aliis sumptibus ad exequias ejusdem nuper Regis, xi s. ij d.† Pro vino dato Ricardo Shurlowe, clerico, post predicacionem suam in ebdomodo (*sic*) die Rogacionum, v d. ob. Pro vino et tortis datis ballivis et associatis suis in festo Corporis Christi euntibus in processione, xvd. Pro vino dato ballivis et associatis suis post supervisionem virorum armatorum missorum ad partes boreales, ix d. ob. Pro pictura et factura singna (*sic*) ad similitudinem facie[i] leopardis pro viris armatis assignatis pro villa, xij d. Pro vino dato viris armatis missis versus Scotland per dom. Presidentem, x d. Pro serevisia data viris armatis assignatis et missis pro villa versus Scotland ad eorum exitum, vj d. Pro stipendio equi et in regardo dato Griffino Lyngen conducenti dictos viros armatos assignatos pro villa Salop usque ad le New Castle, xv s. Sol. Stephano Lowe, mason, de veteri debito ville, pro factura pontis lapidei, xl s., *and afterwards*, pro edificacione pontis lapidei vii li. (*the amount struck out.*) Sol. Humfredo Onneslow, arm. in plenam solucionem pro edificacione communis aule ville, xx li."

1547–8. "In regardo istrionibus ludentibus ante viros armatos, xij d.—cuidam istrioni ludenti ante viros equiles (*sic*) equitantes ad Scociam, xij d." Various other entries relative to the despatch of soldiers sent "ad Cociam," (as frequently written) under Richard Lawley as captain and Richard ap Rice; wine and beer given several times, with 17 *d.* spent upon Richard Lawley at his return. Thirty shillings were paid to Humphrey Onneslowe as rent for the Council House, and in other years. "Sol. Stephano Mason de debito ville pro factura et reparacione pontis lapidei, iij li. xvj d. Sol. pro literis dom. Regis Arthuro Makeworthe et aliis directis circa pecunias per eos concessas ad reedificacionem pontis lapidei, xiiij d."

1548–9. "Sol. Willelmo Newall de veteri debito ville in plenam solucionem pro meremio et lapidibus ab eo emptis ad reedificacionem Gwyalde ville Salop, xl s. Pro duobus vasis positis in Gwyalda [ad] mingendum, xxij d."

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* *Scil.* Rob. Broke, *not* domini Regis, *as in Owen and Blakeway*, p. 322.

† In the small parcel above mentioned are the rough accounts of the bailiffs for this year, in which the particulars of the royal exequies are noted in detail. One separate entry occurs here, which is included in the "aliis sumptibus" of the formal account: "Sol. sacriste S. Cedde pro factura le herse ed exequias dom. Regis, iiij d."

1549–50.—"Sol. pro factione ferrei ad comburendum felones vj^{d}. Reginaldo Corbett pro supplicacione exhibita dom. Cancellario pro Scola libera obtinenda x^{s}. Et servienti dom. Cancellarii pro favore suo in eadem, xx^{d}. Sol. pro empcione libere Scole infra villam Salop habenda, xv^{li}."

1551–2.—"Sol. Johanni de Domo Elymosorum (*sic*) pro ereccione corpus (*sic*) Elisabeth Bikerstaffe interfecte et sepulte existentis, xij^{d}. Pro cordis et circa sepulturam et suspencionem duorum felonum, xvj^{d}. Pro ferris ad suspendendum Thomam Bikerstaffe felonem, vj^{s}. Pro cordis et expenditis circa suspensionem Willelmi Thatcher, xiiij^{d} (*and for irons for him* 4½*d.*). Sol. Ricardo Ive pro equo et carta ad flagellandum vacabundum circa forum, iiij^{d}. Pro vino dato predicatori xx^{o} die Maii per ballivos, vj^{d}. Sol. Thome Onneslowe, baker, pro expensis suis equitando pro domino Morys, xij^{d}. In regardo pedagogo libere Scole, videlicet domino Morys, xij^{d}. Pro diversis custibus expenditis [per Ric. Whitacres] particulariter circa liberam Scolam, lviij^{li} xviij^{s} iiij^{d}. Pro asportacione voluntatis Johannis Fyssher exemplificande, et expendit. circa eandem, ut particulariter apparet, v^{li} xx^{d}. Nuncio dom. Regis pro portante commissionem dom. Regis circa bona ecclesiastica, iij^{s} iiij^{d}. Stephano Lowe, mason, pro stipendio suo de veteri debito, xxxj^{s} vij^{d}. Johanni Prowde, pro domo et aliis terris et tenementis emptis et provisis pro libera Scola, xx^{li}. In regardo cuidam predicatori, iij^{s} iiij^{d}. In regardo, et super convencionem, Johanni Eyton, conducto ad custodiendum liberam Scolam grammaticalem, vj^{s} viij^{d}. Expendit. super predicatorem, xvi^{d}. Expendit. per ballivos super pedagogum nunc conductum, ij^{s} v^{d}. Expendit. circa reparaciones domorum provisorum pro libera Scola" (*included in a large payment of* 80*l.* 17*s.* 6*d. for other repairs*). The customary gifts of wine to preachers begin in this year to be superseded, as noted above, by money payments of greater value.

1552–3.—"In regardo domino Cocks, predicatori, ad emendum duos libros, xx*d.* Pro capcione uxorem (*sic*) Johannis Bennett ex terra post sepulacionem (*sic* !), xij^{d}. Expendit. per ballivos et assoc. suos die lune in le Whitson wuck (*sic*) post visum lusum, iij^{s} viij^{d}. Pro stipendio le watchemen circa domum Edward Hood, xl^{s} vj^{d}. Pro capistro et ferreis ad suspendendum Johannem Bennet et alios felones, v^{s} iij^{d}. Expendit. per ballivos et compares suos ad proclamacionem domine Reginæ, xvj^{s} v^{d}. Pro tunicis et aliis vestimentis ac pistur' (*sic*) earundem pro Robyn Hood, lix^{s} iii^{d} ob. In vino dato eisdem interlusoribus, xiiij^{s}. In regardo le tomlers, ij^{s}. Sol. pedagogo libere Scole in parte stipendii sui, xxij^{li}. De redditu resolut. Johanni Prowde pro tenemento . . libere Scole, iij^{s} iiij^{d}."

Mary I.—For her reign there is only one roll of receipts for 1554-5 and two books of expense accounts for the first and fourth years.

1553–4.—"Pro redditu libere Scole resolut. dom. Regine, debito ad f. S. Mich. Archang. ult. preteritum pro uno anno integro, viij^{s}. In regardo Thome Staney le jugler, ij^{s}. Expendit. per ballivos ad processionem quando Rex Philippus intravit in regnum Anglie ad tres (*sic*) separata loca ville Salop, xxxiiij^{s}. Sol. pedagogo libere Scole in parte stipendii sui, xxij^{li}."

1556–7.—"De redditu solut. J. heredi Johannis Prowde resolut. pro domo libere Scole, iij^{s} iiij^{d}."

Elizabeth.—Of this reign there are only very tattered and crumbling books for years 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 17, and 19. But parcels of the files of bills and vouchers from which the books were made up exist for years 3, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19–28, 32–36, 38, 41 and 42–5. The receipt-accounts exist for years 3, 5–12, 17, 18, 20–22, and 28–9. The accounts become much shorter than before; fewer entertainments are given to visitors, and there are fewer amusements, but players and bear-wards appear occasionally.

1558–9.—"Pro igne combusta in tempore proclamacionis [reginæ], iij^{s} ij^{d}. Pro vino dato sacerdotibus et aliis clericis tempore obitus domine Regine Marie nuper Anglie, v^{s} viij^{d}." The Council-House roof was tiled and the windows glazed.

1562–3.—"Pro salario et stipendio magistri et deputati sui libere Scole pro doct. puerorum hoc anno, xlviij^{li}. Pro redditu soluto pro pomerio libere Scole Johanni Mytton pro redditu pro uno anno integro, in consideracione quod magister Scole separabit ortum a terris alienis polis, vj^{s}. viij^{d}. Expend. per Ricardum Hyggons in itinere suo ad Londinum et pro regardo per ipsum dato clericis Concilii ad impetrandum commissionem dom. Regine ballivis ville ad conducendum milites et eos ornandum ad servicium Regine in milicia, j^{li} x^{s} j^{d} qu. Sol. subballivis pro vict. prison. custod. in gaola per spacium diversarum septimanarum, ut patet per billas, qui ibidem fuerunt adeo pauperes ut nihil habebant quod comedant vel bibant, xlij^{s}." A collection was made for the payment of George Leygh, for his salary as a burgess in five Parliaments, for which five writs had been issued to the bailiffs; but the amount is not entered.

1564–5.—Ten shillings and a gown were given to an officer of the town "pro effugacione mendicorum extra villam."

1566–7.—The sum of 9*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* was gathered for the Free School by a parochial collection in the four parishes within the walls and in the parish of St. Cross in the East "Foriett."

1571–2.—Richard Higgons asks payment for his labour, among other things, in "the plucking downe of the towre towne walle." Wafers and cakes were given to the Earl of Essex.

1573–4.—An annual payment for ringing the bells on the Queen's coronation day appears to be commenced in this year. See under 1574 in *Miscellaneous Papers, infra.*

1574–5.—"Sol. pro diversis equis ad ducendum [*Sir*] Barnabe Fittz Patrick Londino a villa, xx^{s}," "at the request of my lord President."

In the English draft of the accounts we find:—"Geven M^{r} Churchyerd in rewarde, being sente vnto us by my lord President with letters concerninge the coming of the Quene's maiestie to this towne, by the assent of the aldermen and counsellors, iij^{li} vj^{s} viij^{d}. Payd for the inclosinge of Kingsland this yere, as appereth by a bill of particulers xxxvij^{s} vj^{d}."

Through the rest of the reign the parcels of accounts seem to have been carefully searched by the laborious historians of Shrewsbury, who have extracted various interesting items, and it has therefore been deemed unnecessary now to examine them in detail. In 1598–9 the name of a town preacher has been met with, which appears to have escaped previous notice: "Pay'd to M^{r} Bright, our publique precher, for his stipend for this yere, xlvj^{li} xiij^{s} iiij^{d}.

There is also a roll of an assessment for repair of the bridges, walls and towers in 1562–3, which is of interest as giving the names of all the inhabitants of the Castle ward, with the rates at which they were assessed. The ink had so faded that the writing had become illegible, and the document had been supposed to be of a much earlier date, but by the application of hydrosulphuret of ammonia I was able to bring the whole to light.

James I.—The files of vouchers appear to want only years 3, 4, 19, 20, and 22, amongst them being the year of the Powder Plot. But the distinct books of summary account cease, and the general "discharge" statement henceforth appears only on a paper on the files, and is sometimes missing. It was impossible for me in my general survey to do more than to examine the parcels for a few selected years, but these were sufficient to show that the accounts are only of ordinary kind. The historians of Shrewsbury do not appear to have touched these, ceasing their examination with the reign of Elizabeth.

1607.—"To certen Frenchmen who had suffered shipwreck, x^{s}. To a Scottishe preacher, vj^{s} viij^{d}. Spent upon certen Frenche lords and others cominge to this towne, xj^{s} viij^{d}. Given to Mr. John Pryce, a precher, whoe made divers sermons in this towne xl^{s}."

1610.—A rental-book of the houses, &c. belonging to the town, in number 301, with the names of the tenants.

1612, 12 Nov.—"Given to a Gretian 5^{s}."*

1613, 23 June.—"Bestowed on M^{r} Robarts, precher, his horse meat and other charges, 6^{s} 8^{d}." Other preachers in this year are Atkins, Tompson and Goulborne. 10 Feb. "Bestowed uppon an Irishman, 2^{s}."

1621.—Strawberries appear in a bill for a corporation banquet on the second fair-day, 22 June. "Strawberies, vj^{d}. Item, for more strawberrys, xij^{d}."

Charles I.—The vouchers appear to be perfect except for years, 4, 11, and 14, 1628, 1635, and 1639. In this reign all the parcels have been examined from 1630.

1630, 13 May.—Letter from Peter Studley, the minister of Frankwell, asking for repayment of 53*s.* 2*d.* which he had laid out in a suit for recovering the small tithes, which he had by the grant of the Corporation, "from the unjust clayme which in the name of the Schoole is made unto them;" he will endeavour to prevent further charge by a friendly agreement with the School, though to his loss and hindrance.

1631.—Mr. Browne was now public preacher, at a salary of 46*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* and 5*l.* were paid to "viccair Lloyd" for reading morning prayers at St. Alkmund's. In subsequent years 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was also allowed to the preacher for the rent of his house.

1633.—A knitting school had been established, for in this year work was done in tiling the "jersey schoole."

1638.—"The chardge for passinge the newe charter, 521*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*" There is a separate parcel of vouchers containing the particulars of this charge, with the assessment made for defraying it. On 20 March the sergeant was sent to Bridgenorth to the High Sheriff with a letter from the Privy Council, "and a peticion thereinclosed concerninge the cesmente for shipp money."

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* At this period the use of the Roman numerals begins to be discontinued.

[Mayor's Accounts.]

1642.—"Bestowed by waye of gratuitys to the King's the Prynce's and Duke's servants at there beinge in Shrewsburye, 19*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*" On 15 Sept. there were payments for nine bundles of proclamations. Payments for guns and gunpowder and to an engineer, and (very numerous) for repairs of the gates and the walls.

1643.—"Paid Sir Francis Ottley, Knight, towards payment of his garrison souldyers, 170*l.* Capt. Raynesford for disciplyninge of the garrison souldyers by the appoyntement of Sir Francis Ottley and others, 30*l.* Sir Edward Fitton, Knight, for powder and matche, by the direction of Mr. Maior and Sir Francis Ottley, 14*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*" Four assessments were made for the fortifications, amounting to 1927*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, while an assessment "for advaunce money to his Majesties' service" brought in 546*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* One hundred pounds were borrowed from the School money. The vouchers in this year for the work done are of course very numerous.

1644.—"Paid which was spent on Prynce Rupert his highnes, Lord Byron, and other gentlemen of worshipp cominge to this towne 6*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* Presented to Prynce Rupert his highnes by way of guift from the Corporation, 100*l.* A bill for gunpowder works, 177*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* Sir Francis Ottley, Knight, the late governor, for him and his officers at severall times this yeare, 129*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.* Captayne Sandford, towards his paynes for directinge the makinge of fortifications 10*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* Mr. William Waringe for overseeinge the workemen at the Castle worke, by consent of the howse 5*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.* Sir Thomas Sneeton, Knight, in full of his demaund for 6 iron peeces of ordinance 33*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.* Borrowed of severall persons towards the payinge of workemen's wages for the fortifications, 2*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*" Nothing was paid to the public preacher this year. Of arrears of the four assessments made last year there was received 21*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, and 5*l.* of the assessment made for money advanced to the King, while of an assessment made of 1000*l.* for the fortifications there was received 721*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* Other receipts were: Borrowed of several persons for payment of workmen at the fortifications, 45*l.* 8*s.* 0*d.*; "Received of the severall inhabitants for sixepenny money," towards paying the same workmen, 49*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*; gunpowder sold, 40*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.*

Account of the monthly contribution money levied from Sept. 1644 to Feb. 164$\frac{4}{5}$, with the weekly payments made to Major Polden during that time.

Valuations of houses and lands in Shrewsbury and the neighbourhood for the assessments and the monthly contribution. (*Tattered.*) The name of Richard Baxter's father, who was, as his son tells us, one of the collectors, does not seem to occur in these lists.

1645.—There is nothing but a parcel of bills for ordinary charges remaining of this year.

1646, 1 Oct.—James Betton, the public preacher, gives a receipt for 60*l.* paid him for arrears. The other accounts are of an ordinary kind.

1647.—The usual payments for the public preacher are in this year made to one Mr. Samuel Fisher. Mr. Thomas Paget was minister of St. Chad's, and Mr. Thomas Blake vicar of St. Alkmund's. Out of

the money borrowed from the School in 1642–3, repayment was made of 47*l.* "Given Mr. Micheall Betton, cannaneere, in regarde of his good service done to this towne and countye, 5*l.*" A bookseller named Thomas Owen paid 6*l.* for his burgess fee.

Commonwealth.—For the period from 1650 to 1660 the accounts seem to be complete.

1650–1.—Mr. Richard Heath appears as minister of St. Alkmund's, receiving 5*l.* from the Corporation. The payment to the minister of St. Julian's ceases.

1652–3.—Mr. Francis Tallents, the public preacher, receives 65*l.* as his half-year's salary. The fee-farm rent from the town was redeemed in the Exchequer. One year's rent which had been left due was paid in 1659. But the rent was paid again at the Restoration.

1653–4.—Mr. Tho. Paget, the vicar of St. Chad's, had a gift of 25*l.* from the Corporation in addition to the usual annual payments, which was continued afterwards. "Paide by order of the Howse to buy twoe peeces of plate whereupon the Townes armes shall be engravened, to bestowe on Mr. Thomas Hayes as an expression of the Corporation's love unto him in regarde of his greate care and paynes he tooke the tyme the laste Plague was in his towne, after hee had ended his office of maioralty, 15*l.*

1654–5.—"Paid Bartholomew Bowley for an engine to quench fire, in full of xl^{li} 38*l.*"

1655–6.—"Bestowed on the High Sheriffe in regard hee procured both assises, to buy a peece of plate, 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*" On Major General Berry's coming to the town, 1*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* was spent on an entertainment given him at the Red Lion on 28 Nov. 1655, consisting of four dozen cakes, two pounds of sugar and spice, 3 pottles of sack and one of claret, with music.

1656–7.—A "new way" over the "old heath" was paved, at a cost of 37*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, towards which the Drapers' Company gave 10*l.* The Protector was proclaimed on July 18, 1657, when 6*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* were spent.

1657–8.—On Sept. 10, 1658, the new Protector Richard was proclaimed, with a more economical expenditure of 5*l.* 12*s.*

1658–9.—In this year Mr. John Bryan becomes minister of St. Chad's.

1659–60.—The many movements of troops in the neighbourhood consequent upon the royalist attempts just before the Restoration are illustrated by the bills for entertainments given by the Corporation. The modest provision of a quart of canary and a bun was afforded on 9 Nov. 1659 "when Major Waring came to the Exchequer to demand the Chamber of Concord for to be a maine guard for the souldiers." Much the same was spent "on Capt. Inglesbie," 9 March, 1660, and when "several proclamations" were made on 24 March. A more liberal allowance was made, with biscuits, wafers and "fowre bunns" for Col. Redmonde on 27 Feb. One week before, on 20 Feb. Mr. Bromley and Serjeant Pugh went by the Mayor's order "to meet the souldiers at Middle"; one quart of sack was then consumed by "Mr. Maior and other gentlemen, considering about the admitting the souldiers"; and,

finally, sack and ale were provided for the officers. But the greatness of the joy evinced at the Restoration may be gauged by comparison of the expense at proclaiming the King on 11 May with that at proclaiming the two Protectors, being 21*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

Charles II.—The accounts for 1666–7–1669–70 are wanting.

1661–2.—Francis Tallents ceases to be the public preacher. 10*l.* were paid towards the repair of St. Mary's steeple. The original warrants for displacing and appointing members of the Corporation and town officers, signed and sealed by the Commissioners for the purpose, are preserved, dated on Aug. 9 and 18. Those displaced are the mayor, nine aldermen, twelve assistants, the two chamberlains, one coroner, the marshal, one sergeant, and thirty-four burgesses. With regard to the town-clerk there is only a certificate signed by seven commissioners and dated 12 Sept. that they "thought fitt to displace and remove Thomas Jones of Shrewsbury, esq. from his late office of town clerk of the said towne, for severall things affirmed by credible testimony to have bin by him acted and done to the great disservice of his late majestie and of his majestie that now is, as well as for that it did appeare unto us hee was unduly elected into the said office." The warrants for appointment of successors relate to the mayor, aldermen, assistants, and officers, but not to the town clerk.

1662–3.—Mr. Robert Fowler is now public preacher, and Mr. Roger Heyward minister of St. Chad's. Twenty-five pounds are paid to Francis Tallents the late preacher, "according to the Visitor's order."

There does not seem to be much that calls for notice in the annual accounts after this date as having more than local interest. In the reign of James II. there are accounts for 1686–8, but they are only of ordinary nature. In that of William III. the years 1698–9 are wanting, and in that of Anne all but four; while those of George I. and II. are imperfect. From the accession of George III. the series is complete.

VI.—Trained Bands and Musters.

One box is filled with parcels of papers mostly from the time of Q. Eliz. to that of Q. Anne, containing lists of men able to bear arms, returns of weapons and armour, accounts for the billeting of soldiers and for the relief of the maimed, and the like.* The following notices may suffice to show the special features of the contents:—

circa 1370–80.—Two paper leaves contain lists of the "homines armati" and the "sagittarii" (in numbers 13 and 124), in two divisions of the town, "a Fratribus Predicatoribus usque ad Fratres Minores," and "a Fratribus Minoribus usque ad portam Wallie," each under four constables.

1545.—List of 24 able men, sufficiently horsed and harnessed, prepared in obedience to an order from the Earl of Shrewsbury to go to serve the King in the north parts. 21 Apr. 1545.

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* Several papers in this collection have been printed by Mr. W. Phillips in Vols. I. and III. of the second series of the Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society.

1562, July–Aug.—Copies of orders from the Queen and Council for the levying of 500 soldiers in the county and 300 in the town for an expedition to Normandy to prevent seizure by the French of the town of Newhaven.

1580.—Returns by the wardens of the various trade-companies of all their members, and of the journeymen and servants employed by them above the age of 16, with the weapons possessed by them.—Printed in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2*nd S.*, *I.*, 257-281.

1583, 2 Sept. Beawdley.—Commission and instructions from the Council of the Marches for a muster of lances and light horsemen.

1583, 13 Oct.—Letter from Sir H. Sydney, requiring further particulars in the return to the above commission.

1583, 21 Oct. Salop.—Letter of summons, signed by eight commissioners, to Thomas Ponsbury, esq., to appear on 24 Oct. to receive directions for the furniture of a light horseman. And other papers connected with this muster.

1588, June.—Copies of letters from the Privy Council and the Lord Lieutenant of Salop relative to the preparations to be made in consequence of the setting sail of the Spanish fleet.

1589, March.—Lists of men prepared for service; returns from the several trade-companies of their able-bodied men, accounts of armour, &c.

1616.—Two letters from Sir Francis Newport and Richard (?) Corbett to the bailiffs, the one dated at Eyton, 7 Sept., ordering six able men to appear on the 13th, from whom two are to be chosen for service in Ireland, and the other dated 21 Oct. ordering a general muster on 19 Nov.

1624, 8 Sept. Ludlow Castle.—Letter to the bailiffs from W. [Earl of] Northampton, commending their desire to have an artillery yard erected in Shrewsbury, license for which he will endeavour to obtain from the King.

c. 1643.—Lists of all the persons in the trained bands, divided into "squadrants."

1644.—A parcel of receipts for provisions supplied to the garrison, consisting chiefly of cheese.

VII.—Courts of the Bailiffs and Courts of Record.

The rolls of pleas in the Bailiffs' court in cases of debt and trespass and other civil cases begin in Dec., 1 Edw. I., 1272. They include afterwards cases of assault and theft. Amongst them is an assize roll ("coram Rege") in 1379. The records of the Sessions before the Recorder begin, in an imperfect condition, at the year 1508, or in fragmentary notes a little earlier. The Quarter-Sessions records begin at the year 1564.—(Extracts from these have been printed by Sir Offley Wakeman in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archæol. Soc.*)

There are four rolls of the Court of Pie-powder in the years 1435–6, 1438, 1447 ("Pee Pouderez") and 1453 ("Peepoudres"). Rolls of fines are noticed above, in the Bailiffs' accounts *temp.* Hen. VI.

A thick folio volume of copies of recoveries, bonds, &c. in the court of the Bailiffs and Mayor bears the following title :—"A booke conteining the recordes of fynes, recoveries, and statutes within the towne of Shrewesbury; made in the tyme of Thomas Sherer and Thomas Chorlton, gent., Bailiffs, Anno Domini 1578; wherin nevertheles are conteined some recordes in former tyme." The contents extend to the year 1732.

Papers relating to the relief of the poor fill two boxes in conjunction with highway accounts. The first assessment for the poor is dated 30 Dec. 1580.

VIII.—Free Grammar School.

One box contains deeds and papers relating to the foundation and endowment of the School. Amongst these is an extremely interesting series of lists, on vellum, of benefactions to the library, giving not merely titles of books and names of donors, but a description of the binding of each volume. These lists extend from 1606 to 1634. The donors' names have been printed in local publications. And, on paper, there is a list of books chained in the library, dated 31 March, 1664; and also a tattered catalogue made in 1619 "provided to be reade openly in the Booth hall on the seaventeenth day of November yearely." One parcel of papers relates to a loan of 600*l.* made from the stock of the School kept in the exchequer of Shrewsbury to King Charles I. in 1642, by Richard Gibbons, mayor, Thomas Challinor, the Head Master, Robert Betton, senior alderman, and Richard Berrington, senior common-councilman. In 1650 an action was begun by the then Mayor and Aldermen against the lenders for recovery of the money. Betton and Berrington had both died before the suit began; of Gibbons it is said he "hath exiled himself almost ever since the suit began, and is now reported to be dead, but the plaintiffs know not"; so the actual defendants were said to be Challinor and Robert and Thomas Betton as executors to their father. Gibbons, however, did appear and plead. The case was still proceeding in 1671, but in 1673 was dismissed. There is a copy of the King's letter in acknowledgment of the loan, dated at Shrewsbury 11 Oct. 1642, in which he promises "that wee shall cause the same to be truely repayd to you whensoever you shall demand the same, and shall allwayes remember the loane of it as a very acceptable service unto us."

The following letters are of interest :—

1577, 15 May. Kerston.—Letter to the bailiffs (John Dawes and Richard Owen) from Thomas Asheton, the first Master. When he was trusted with the charge of their scholars, he, upon just consideration, forced with sickness, committed the same again, to be perfected, to worshipful, wise, learned, discreet personages, whose majesty and judgment might win to that matter more credit than it could ever have had by his own private doing; and perusing their travails therein, he finds it so substantially gone through that he has just cause to like and allow of the same: And he most earnestly wishes the bailiffs to consent to the same, that the thing with all speed may have perfection; and think that it was God's providence that made them commit the matter to a weak person at the first, whose purposed power should give strength to the same at the last. Leaves them to be guided by God's Spirit, that, all faction set apart, they may look with a single eye to their government, and, God's wrath pacified, may enjoy the fruits of blessed concord.—Endorsed, "I pray you good Baylifs, kepe this well and safe. It is of weight."

157$\frac{7}{8}$, 9 Jan. "From my howse at Hallon."—Letter to the bailiffs and aldermen from Sir George Bromley. Understands by his friend Mr. Assheton that they make some question whether, as provided by the ordinances of the School, they may apply part of the revenues to the purchasing of lands for scholarships and fellowships in the University. When he penned the ordinances, he had the sight of the letters patent both of Edw. VI. and of the Queen that now is, and it seemed that the directions in the ordinances might be well done without any danger of forfeiture or prejudice.

1579, 9 Apr. London.—Letter to the bailiffs and to Thomas Lawrence, schoolmaster, from John [Aylmer, Bishop of] London, Sir Owen Hopton and M. Lewis. Understanding by the bearer John Williams that he was admitted vicar of St. Mary's in Salop, but that they have displaced him, and are about to appoint another in his room, they are hereby required to have consideration of the poor man's cause and to restore him to his former service; and do not only a good and charitable deed to the poor man, his wife and family, but also do God service.

1583, 28 July, Shrewsbury.—Draft of a letter to the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, from the Bailiffs, announcing the resignation of Mr. Lawrence, the chief schoolmaster, who, having continued in that charge fifteen years, now finds himself so weakened in body that he is not able to continue. His care and diligence have been such that the School has not only yielded a great number of good scholars, but also is the special ornament of the town, and is left in such good order that all gentlemen of these parts are very desirous to have their children trained up in it, whereby the number of scholars daily increases. They send the bearer, Thomas Salter, gent., to urge a good and careful selection of a successor, according to the great trust committed to the College. And albeit Mr. Baker, the second master, a master of arts, ought to be preferred before any other, he utterly refuses to supply the room. Should friendship prevail to commend a young or more insufficient man than Mr. Baker, they cannot allow of the choice.

1591, 19 Oct. "From the Schoole."—Letter to the bailiffs from John Meyghen, about his desire to purchase the school orchard.

1608-9.—Petition from Humphrey Gardner, glover, that his son Thomas Gardner, master of arts of both Universities, who was brought up in the School, may be recommended for appointment as second master, in the room of John Baker, M.A., deceased.

1627, 1 Nov. St. John's [College, Cambridge]. — Letter to the bailiffs from Owen Guyn, Master of the College. Has received their letter by Mr. Benion, informing him that two of the schoolmasters' places are void by resignation. Although the University and College abound with many fitting for such places, yet as some mature deliberation will be required, he will propound the matter at the next meeting of the seniors.

1627, 19 Nov. St. John's in Cambr.—Letter to the bailiffs, signed by the Master Owen Guyn, Rob. Lany, W. Mealeson, Rob. Aliot, Tho. Smith, Steph. Haxbye, John Pryse, and Hen. Downhale. They read with much grief of the present weakness and decay of the School, which would have been more grievous had it been by their default. But the elections having formerly been made of such only as were commended by the bailiffs themselves, the latter cannot in equity but clear them of this mishap. But since the remedy is now wholly referred to them, they have not insisted upon any of their own for favour, but have

enquired diligently in the University, and have made choice of the most eminent and best deserving that could be persuaded to accept of such preferment. To the second place they have elected James Brooke, M.A., fellow of Gunvyle and Caius College, whose ability is well known to them; and to the third place, David Evans, B.A., of Jesus College, brought up in the School, approved both for ability of learning and conversation of life.

1627, 27 Nov. Lichfield Palace.—Letter to the bailiffs, &c. from Thomas [Morton, bishop of] Coven. and Lichf. approving of the nominations of Brookes and Evans by St John's College. "I have furthermore examined them in the poynt of literature, and in all these respects have received soe good satisfaccon for proofe both of theire life and learning that I doe greatlie reioyce I may commend such two worthie instruments for institution of youth unto you; by whose meanes I hope the former bewtie of that Schoole, so much decayed, wilbe revyved, to the profitt of the schollers, and to the contentment of them that affect the good of the Schoole."

1629.—See under this year under the head of *Miscellaneous Papers*.

1674, 28 Aug.—Petition from John Okeley, baker, who "through his loyalty to his prince" is maimed and unable to gain a being for his children, for a scholarship and exhibition for his son, whom he has brought up to learning in the School.—Referred to the Council for consideration.

1688, Oct.—Draft of a letter from the Mayor, stating, in reply to a notice from St. John's College that they had elected Mr. Johnson to supply the vacancy, that he is a person neither approved by himself nor by the preceding Mayor Mr. Salter. They have advised with counsel concerning the present difference between the Corporation and the College, and are informed that the right of nomination and approbation of a schoolmaster is settled in the former, and that in refusing Mr. Johnson they have acted legally, and according to the power granted them; and therefore they are resolved to vindicate their right. The continuance of a good correspondence may easily be effected, if the College will recall their seal granted to Mr. Johnson, and approve of one of the two persons formerly nominated, viz. Mr. Mathews, who has been a schoolmaster for some years, or Mr. Tisedale.

1744.—See under the head of the *Municipal Registers, supra*.

IX.—Miscellaneous Papers.

Several boxes are filled with miscellaneous documents and papers, and petitions to the bailiffs, sorted and labelled, extending from the 13th century to the 19th. I subjoin a chronological list of those which seem the most noteworthy among the older papers, and of a few selected from the large bundles of petitions, most of which deserve for their local interest the careful examination which is being gradually given to them. Some of these papers have been printed in the Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society.

1. A copy, apparently written in the fourteenth century, but in a hand which, except in the initial line, has evidently attempted (very successfully) to imitate a twelfth-century original, of an account of the foundation of the abbey by earl Roger de Montgomery. It is endorsed: "Carta qualiter domus Sancti Petri fuerat primo fundata."

An abstract of its contents is given in Owen's and Blakeway's *History*, II. 19–23, where it is said that the "writing is of very remote antiquity, scarcely later than the middle of the twelfth century." The doubtful place-name there printed as *Meiluil Hermer* appears rather to be *Meiliul Hermer*.

2. 1249–50.—Assays of the mint at Shrewsbury. "Rotulus de assays. factus per custodes cuneorum Salopp., incipient. die Jovis prox. ante festum Purificacionis Beate Marie a° r. r. H. xxxiij°"; ending "Die Cinerum anno r. r. H. xxxiiij." The returns for forty weeks, the assayers being Alan le Prude, William le Bor, and towards the end, in the place of the former, Thomas Gherard.

Owen and Blakeway, I. 135, where for *Pride* read *Prude*.

1267.—Copy made in 1421, 9. Hen. V., from an exemplification in the Records of 35 Edw. I., 1307, of the agreement between the Abbey and town of Shrewsbury respecting the mills, entered on the Plea Roll of 51 Hen. III. Owen and Blakeway, I. 130.

1270.—Receipt-roll of the tolls, and of their expenditure upon the paving of the town, 54 Hen. III. This should be among the rolls of bailiffs' accounts. It is noticed in Owen and Blakeway, I. 131–2.

1306–7.—*Placita* between the town and the abbey about the mills. Printed in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd Series, VI. 341–357, with translation and notes by Rev. C. H. Drinkwater.

1340.—Roll of felonies committed in the year 14 [Edward III.], with notes in the margin of the fines inflicted, and with two or three entries carrying on cases to 22 [Edw. III.]. In French. "Les. Jurors de Salopeburs dient par lur serements de felonyes fetes del an xiiij."

1351, 13 Jan.—Acknowledgment (in French) by Richard earl of Arundel of the receipt of 20*l.* in part payment of 300*l.* due to him from the bailiffs and commonalty of "Salopbirs"; at Arundel Castle, f. of St. Hilary, 24 Edw. III.

1374, 26 June, "die lune prox. post f. Nat. S. Joh. Bapt." 48 Edw. III.—Indenture of grant by John Stury and Reginald Mutton, bailiffs of Salop, with the consent of the whole community, to James le Dyere, of leave to raise the pavement and turn the channel in length and breadth between his tenement near the bailiffs' gate, so that the supervening water may have its course to the Severn near the tenement formerly John Colle's, with guarantee to him and his heirs of the said pavement and channel. Witnesses, Richard de Pontusbury, John de Schettone, William de Longenolre, Richard de Beortone, Richard Russell, John Perle. Round red seal; a figure kneeling before a figure holding a key (the "Noli me tangere"?): "Sigillum . . bert' de Northaatone" (?).

1397–8.—"Constabularii ville Salop. tempore Willelmi Willyley et Nicholai Jerard, ballivorum ville Salop." A sheet of parchment is thus headed, which gives the names of the burgesses of all the merchant gilds, beginning with the "Corveysers," and marking the first two, three, or four names in the lists of several of the companies as being the Constables. The names of the journeymen ("servientes eorum") are also given, and the inhabitants of the liberties.

1447, 2 Apr.—Letter from the bailiffs and burgesses of the town of Osewestre to Thomas Forstere and Adam Goldsmythe, the bailiffs, and to the burgesses, &c. of Shrewsbury. They certify that their cousin

and countryman Gruff of Kalcote and his son were never guilty of the matter for which they are indicted, viz., for the "resset" of one Guttyn ap Madwyn Lloit with his sons and other misdoers. "The said Gruff hathe dwellet wit youe of a child, of whom we truste to God ye herd never none untrouthe unto this tyme, nother of his sone."

1462, 31 Dec.—Letter to William Oteley, bailiff, from David Lloyd ap Ser^{e} Gruffuth, asking for the release of a servant of his, arrested in Shrewsbury, and he will do his law "as ye will awarde hym, for I wot well that ye woll nott put hym under no strayte jugement but as law and right will."

[1476–90.]—Two letters, one from the bailiffs of Oswestry to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, 5 Feb., the other from Thomas ap Meredith ap Ric. to "Master M. Thornes, bailiff of Shalop," 4 Feb., respecting the case of one Edward Sayre, whom the vicar of Oswestry is sueing at Shrewsbury at the same time that he is proceeding against him at Oswestry. The latter writer mentions "my cosyn John Davys yor sone ye law," and returns a book Thornes had lent him.

1491, 23 Jan.—Grant by Thomas, abbott of St. Peter's, Salop, and the convent, of the next presentation to the vicarage of All Saints, "Welyngtone sub le Wrekyn," to Humphrey Kynaston, gent., Robert Thornes, gent., Richard Egge, literate, and Robert Corbet, chaplain. Seal entirely cut off.

n.y. 30 June, at Llansanfrait.—Letter from John ap Meredith, parson of Llansantfrait, to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, "in all hast possibill," giving a list of successive purchasers of a horse, which he himself had bought at Ludlow, and which is now attached at Shrewsbury on suspicion of having been stolen.

n.y. 30 Aug. "From thabbey of Wigmore."—Letter from John Arundell to the bailiffs, desiring them to give to the bearer such money and goods as were taken with Thomas Elmbough when the writer laid his action for trespass against him.

1511–12. A parcel of orders from the Council of the Marches to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury; 3, 4 [Hen. VIII.]. There is also a report to the Council, at a later date when it was the Prince's Council, from the Shrewsbury justices appointed for surveying the Severn and its tributaries, respecting defaults not amended; an order in May, 1567; &c.

1511, 10 Sept.—Letter (*indented*) to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury from John Wosewall, of St. Chad's Almshouse, claiming fulfilment of their promise to make an end of a dispute between him and his father-in-law Robert Colle, respecting his mother's property, of which he claims to be wrongfully deprived, and hence has "lyffyd longe in catyvite and in wrechednes."

1515, 27 Oct.—Draft of the return of a commission of enquiry as to the districts comprised in the liberties of the town; dated Sat. before the f. of All SS., 7 Hen. VIII.

[*c.* 1520], 3 March. London.—Letter from George Cowper to his father, Thomas Cowper, town clerk of Shrewsbury. "If hit please youe to here of my pore welfare, I was in good helthe at the makyng of this bill, lawde to God. Also thankyng youe of your gret cost, wiche I

putt youe unto." Cannot as yet return his sword, for he can find no carrier to take it. Mentions his sister, his uncle Ottley, and his cousin Mary, who marvelleth greatly that she heareth no word from [her father] Ottley; and master Done and his wife, whose tokens he hath delivered to her son and daughter. "Ser, as for newes ther ys none, but of late ther was herytyks here, which dyd take Luters openyons."

c. 1523.—Application from Thomas Hosier for reimbursement of 5*s.* 4*d.* which he paid during his being bailiff [in 1521–2] with Roger Thornes, for his appearance in Chancery to certify the number of Frenchmen that were within the franchise of Salop.

1524, 29 Jan., 15 Hen. VIII., at London.—Letter from William Toft to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, desiring them to discharge one of his farmers, Evan ap Tyther bach, who is troubled by the writer's cousin Hugh Philipps, whereas he has given his farmers day till Midsummer next for all debt and duties. "My cosyn Hugh Philipps shall medell no more with my benefice and with my fermers from hensforth."

n.y. 8 June. London.—Letter from Hew Phelipis to the bailiffs, about the return of some writs "by Thomas Abromley is counsell" "Delyver Jevan Aptydyr a baghe for anye mater of myne, for I have don therewith, I will medyll no more therein."

[1526], 31 Oct. "Alhalow Evyn." London.—Letter to the bailiffs from Adam Mytton, employed in a suit with the city of Worcester. Worcester has a charter of 11 Hen. III., the same year as the charter of Shrewsbury, but the charter of John in his eleventh year to Shrewsbury has been delivered by Mr. Couper, and mention has been found of one granted in his seventeenth year, for which Couper is going to search.

c. 1530.—Copy of a petition to the Commissioners of the Marches from the inhabitants of the townships called the New Franchise of Shrewsbury, claiming exemption from taxes, general and local, by the charter granted by Hen. VII. forty years past and above.

[1528.]—Petition from Dr. Duffylde, the Warden, and the Brethren of the Grey Friars, to the bailiffs and burgesses for further contributions towards the repair of their house; with notes subjoined of money granted. Owen and Blakeway, II., 463.

Temp. Hen. VIII.—Petition to the bailiffs from the Bowyers and Fletchers of Shrewsbury, complaining that the statutes for encouragement of archery, which enjoin that children and servants above 12 years of age shall have one bow and two shafts, are neglected, as also the statute that forbids the unlawful games of bowls and tables, dice and cards, the art of shooting in the long bows being a pastime very commodious for man's health, and in time of war the greatest defence against the enemy, so that our nation has not only been had in great terror by enemies but also in veneration by others as the country of valiant victories gotten thereby. Consequently the most number of people give themselves to unlawful games; so, although it may be tolerable for the eminent inhabitants for their recreations to use sometime bowling or the like, yet it is not tolerable to suffer the common sort of people to run into the fields with the bowls, and bowl all day long in the open face of all the passers by. Apprentices and servants not having bows and arrows found them by their parents and masters, not so few as a hundred persons are betting, and playing by way of bets

their masters' goods, contrary to all good order, by means whereof the strength of the town, if necessary against rebellion (which God forbid), is weakened, and the living of the petitioners utterly taken away. (This paper is amongst those relating to the Trained Bands.)

Temp. Hen. VIII.—Minute description of two men and their dress, largely of velvet, an old man of 60 with a white beard, and a young man called Robert Jones, both shoemakers. "If that you do take them, send worde to Mr. Maior of Oxfforde, or to Mr. Alexander Miller, taylor to the Kings Maiestye in Breadstreite in London."

Temp. Hen. VIII., 13 March. Beaudley.—Letter to Thomas Couper, "recorder of the towne of Shrewsbury" from Lewes Hanmer, about some suit with the bailiffs, for which one Cook is appointed to appear on 26 March. Send some one with the words of the charter concerning the matter, and the circumstance of the matter, "and also the exclamation of the lewd body," considering Mr. Port, Mr. Salter, Mr. Bromley, and other of the Council will be here.

154$\frac{8}{9}$, 19 Feb. London.—Letter to the bailiffs from Reignald Corbett, the recorder, respecting some law proceedings.

1550.—Regulations by Thomas Leigh and Adam Otteley, Richard Lawley and Richard Leighton, as to the quantities of corn to be brought weekly on the market-days by the farmers, severally named, from the places round Shrewsbury, from November to Christmas, in pursuance of the King's proclamation on account of dearth; with a letter to the bailiffs from Sir Richard Brereton and Sir Robert Nedeham.

[1551] 29 July.—Letter to the bailiffs Purssell and Ireland from William Heynes about his exchanging a horse with Thomas Harries, of Terbyn, Cheshire, gent.

[1567? after Nov. 1566.]—Petition from a journeyman tailor to the Council of the Marches against his employer for non-payment of wages, with the reply of the latter alleging that the amount being under 40*s*. the case cannot be tried by that court, and enclosing the list of garments made by the plaintiff with the prices charged.

[1567] 11 March. Haughmond.—Letter from James "Berker" [Barker] to bailiff Alen, desiring that a suit against one Rondell Lee may be deferred on account of his being out of the realm on the Queen's service in Ireland, having been pressed and set forward at the last voyage of Sir Andrew Corbet and the writer.

1568, 24 Apr. "At my howse at Newetowne."—Letter from A. Vavasor to the bailiffs, desiring them to enforce some bonds against Mr. Price, or he will have to show their default to the Commissioners. [*See next article.*]

1568, 6 May. London.—Letter to the bailiffs from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, Edm. [Grindal bishop of] London, Thomas Yale, and T[homas] Huycke. Whereas it is thought that they have permitted Richard Price, clerk, vicar of Kerry, whom they were ordered to apprehend, to escape, and such manifest contempt and negligence in the execution of the Queen's orders should be looked into and not silently passed over, they are to cause the said Price to appear in the Consistory Court at London on the tenth day after receipt hereof, or else themselves to appear on the sixteenth day.

1568, 9 Aug.—Letter from the Council of the Marches, ordering the pressing of four brickmakers and two tilers to be set forward for Ireland, whither the Lord Deputy of Ireland and the Lord President of the Marches are going, who require them for the setting forward of certain works.

1568, 25 Sept. Eccleshall Castle.—Letter to the bailiffs from Thomas [Bentham] bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. Whereas there has been a controversy between Mr. Powell and Mr. Payne about serving the cure of Ness, which was settled by friends about Candlemas with the condition that Mr. Payne should then depart thence, but who by remaining a certain space after has come into great misliking with many as having neither meant nor done honestly or faithfully, the writer desires it to be understood that that doing was wholly his and his officers', and that Payne's longer abode was in no point through his seeking or procurement, but wholly and only by the bishop's authority and charge, who found himself prejudiced in that the discharge was without his knowledge and consent.—Printed in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S., IV. 64.

1569.—Petition from Robert Ireland, the younger, to the Council of the Marches, complaining of the non-payment to him by the bailiffs of Shrewsbury of arrears due to him at the time of his ceasing to be bailiff in the preceding year; with an order thereupon dated 2 Dec. 12 Eliz.

1570, 13 Aug. Ludlow Castle.—Letter from the Council of the Marches ordering strict search for, and the arrest of, certain lewd and seditious spreaders of false and slanderous bruits and rumours that it is intended to call down money to a lesser value, a thing utterly untrue and false.

1570, 26 Oct. Ludlow Castle.—Order from the Council of the Marches for the arrest of John Blease as a rebel, and to send him to appear before the Council on 8 Nov., and also to sequester all his lands and goods.

[1570], 3 Nov.—Petition to the bailiffs from Richard Higgons, that the town will bear his charges in a suit in which he has to appear before the Council of the Marches this day, which he has brought against Thomas Poope and others for defacing and pulling down a tower or bulwark at Creple Loode and for other injuries done against the town.

157$\frac{0}{1}$, 15 Jan. Ludlow.—Letter from David Lloid to Humphrey Onslow and Hugh Beynes, the bailiffs, about a suit brought against the town by Thomas Pope, in which they have to appear on 6 March.

157$\frac{0}{1}$, 3 March.—Letter to the same from Sir Andrew Corbett, appointing Monday next for the election of burgesses (for Parliament) in pursuance of letters from the Queen.

157$\frac{0}{1}$, 5 March.—Writ signed by Rowland Lacon, esq., sheriff, for the election.

157$\frac{0}{1}$, 24 March. Watlesburghe.—Letter to the bailiffs from E. Leighton and Edward Onslow, two justices, to whom an action respecting the seizure of a gelding had been referred by the Council of the Marches.

1571, 30 July, Hampton Court.—Copy of an order from the Queen for strict search in every parish by constables appointed for the purpose on 20 Aug. from 7 p.m. until 3 p.m. next day and on 12 Sept. and Oct.,

on account of disorders which have risen since the last winter, for all rogues, vagabonds, sturdy beggars, masterless men and all persons otherwise suspected, and to punish them by stocking and sharp and severe whipping, and then to convey them from constable to constable until they come to the place of their birth or last place of abode within three years; and this search to be repeated afterwards every fiftcen or twenty days; "for ther is no greater disorder nor no greater roote of theftes, murders, pickinge, stealinge, debate and sedicion then ys in those vagabonds and that riseth of them." Endorsed with lists of names of persons appointed to make search in the several wards.

1571, 7 Sept.—Letter from Sir Andrew Corbett to the bailiffs, respecting his being ordered by the Privy Council to send up Lawrence Bannester, esq., of Wem, to the Court, with certain packs and packets of letters, which will hinder him from assisting them in the executing the subsidy; makes request also in behalf of Thomas Beech, late common serjeant of the town, who by that service is in danger, and who they well know is no wasteful person, riotous, or such like.

1571, 13 Sept.—Letter to the same from Charles Bouthe, Jevan Moris, and Richard Draper, three Commissioners appointed by the Court of Star-Chamber to examine witnesses in a certain case, and who have come to Shrewsbury for the purpose, complaining of the arrest of William Stringer, clerk to Charles Bouthe, for small debts, he being a privileged person in his attendance.

1571, 29 Sept., Walford.—Letter from Raphe Clive to the same, respecting a case of the passing of a counterfeit gold ten-shilling piece.

[1571], 18 Oct. From the Poole.—Letter to Humphrey Onslowe, esq., bailiff, from John Hewer [?] condoling on "the great losse and discomfort that happened unto you by the deathe of your bedfelow"; thanking him heartily "for my good cheere"; and asking his favour for a friend, the bearer, who is sued in the bailiffs' court by one David ap David Bobythen, but who has pleaded a foreign parley, "by reson the wordes were spoken at Poole out of the jurisdiccion of your court of Salop."

[1571 ?]—Letter to the bailiffs, from London, unsigned, about a grant of the fee farm rent paid to the Crown, which is being prepared for the Great Seal. "The suite I confesse doth not countervaile the chardges, yet in so hard a world we must be content with that wylbe had."

[1571 ?]—Petition to the same, for release from prison, from Nicholas Lont, glover, committed for misdemeanours in the church of St. Julian during divine service; after drink he cannot otherwise do, whereof he was full at the time; he has a great many of children, and a wife, who live only upon his hands.

1574 (?) Jan.—Petition to the same from the clerks of the four parishes praying "for God's love" that whereas at their worships' commandment they "did rynge in their severall churches upon Friday last past, being the daie of the monethe of the crowenacion" of Q. Elizabeth, they will see to their orators' pains, and those of other poor men ringers who not only left their work and business, but also spent money out of their purses. [Jan. 15, the coronation day, fell on Friday in 1574, and also in 1563 and 1580.]

1576, 21 Dec.—Certificate by Sir Pirce ap Richard, vicar of Northope, Flint, of his having this day buried Harry ap Richard, *alias* Harry Andrew, glover, who died in his parish.

1576, 28 Dec.—Certified copy of a letter from the Privy Council, enjoining the observance of abstinence and fish days, the neglect of which has led to most excessive and extreme prices of victuals, and also to the great decay of mariners and fishermen, a matter very prejudicial to the strength of the navy.

The Plague: Papers of various dates.

1537-8.—See under *Bailiffs' Accounts, supra.*

1563.—See under *Municipal Registers, supra.*

1576.—Letters to the bailiffs from Richard Prince and Andrew Corbett. These are printed in Owen and Blakeway I., 369-70.

Orders issued by the bailiffs: all swine and dogs to be avoided out of the town, upon pain of the forfeiture of the swine and killing of the dogs; all cats to be killed: streets to be cleansed every Wednesday and Saturday, and all other places and back-lanes once weekly; all mixens ("mixsones") and "waterloades" to be made and avoided, on pain of imprisonment: fires to be made every other night in divers places in every street, on pain of imprisonment. [See also 1576 *supra.*]

List of infected houses.

1593. Nov.—Letter from Edward Owen and Hum. Hughes, the bailiffs, to Mr. Thomas Brabant, pastor of Astley, and Robert Pawmer, urging that a collection be made for the relief of the people of Bishop's Castle, visited with the plague; with a similar letter subjoined from Thomas Laughton; and at the foot the reply of Brabant, who is sending about six strikes of corn, collected only from his people of Astley.

1631, Nov.—Petition from John Meighen, "corviser," to the bailiffs, &c., praying that in return for his viewing the sick at Kingsland and applying medicines and salves according to the directions oftentimes received from Mr. Boraston, and distributing such victuals as were sent, he may be forgiven such blood and affrays as he and his wife are in. (At first the petition was for "some reasonable satisfaction," but this was struck out, and the prayer for escape from punishment substituted!) Noted as being agreed to, 4 Nov.

1632.—See *infra*, under that year.

1578.—Representations to the bailiffs Thomas Sherar and Thomas Chorlton, signed by 18 burgesses, following up a former petition, calling for inquiry into the government of the town, and complaining specially of the illegal election of Roger Hayward and John of Gryffyth, *alias* Wynen, as common councillors, and of the misemployment of Robert Allen's bequest.

1578, 20 July. Pitchford.—Letter to the bailiffs from Adam Ottley, upon an alleged case of stealing a hedge-bill which had been brought before him.

[1580], 11 Nov. 22 Eliz.—Inventory of papers and money which Robert Ireland, esq., and John Perche, gent., delivered over in a chest in the Exchequer to the new bailiffs.

[1580?]—Petition to the bailiffs from Richard Hamond, tailor, who has been amerced in 3*s.* 4*d.* for taking stones out of the town-wall under the house where he dwells, which was done without his knowledge, and he has put others in their stead. Endorsed, "To be considered when we talke of felons' goodes."

[1581 ?]—Petition from Roger ap Loyde (?), a poor creature, now impotent by reason of having served seven times in the wars, who is now derided and mocked, calling him *Colepytt*, and he, for avoiding of their foolish derision, avoideth them, but now he is presented for affraying.

[1581 ?]—Letter to Adam Mytton from Edward Pue, praying him to stand his friend, and not to let him be committed to prison for revenging himself upon one who greatly abused him in his own house.

1581, 4 Dec.—Letter to the bailiffs from Edward Hussey. He has, according to their precept, called together the parishioners of Battlefield, who are, as is well known, very poor, and unable to yield any weekly contribution for relief of others. There are two widows who have relief at the writer's hands, and will be glad to have some further allowance from the bailiffs. Richard Sandbrooke's wife came to ask for fourpence more weekly; this the writer refers to the bailiffs' consideration, as the man has fourpence weekly from Mr. Poncebury, and has of his own one cow and a heifer, and seven sheep, besides geese and hens and good store of household stuff. There is also one John Richards that requires relief, but he has only been in the parish since Christmas last, and belongs to Upton Magna, whither he should be sent back again.

1581, 22 Dec.—Letter to the same from Edward Bulkeley, asking for relief for two persons.

158½ March.—Petition from John Smith, to whom the care of an orphan Richard Davies had been committed, against Thomas Studley for not paying a sum due; with an order of the bailiffs dated 10 March, "for that it dothe belonge to the dewtie of the majestrate to have care of the fatherles, the widow and the oppressed," providing that the payment shall be made, and for the boy's apprenticeship.

1583, 31 May.—Letter from the bailiffs to the wardens of the company of bakers, commending to them, as to all the brotherhoods, the case of John ap Rees, in behalf of whom Mr. Secretary Foxe, a burgess and one of the Council of the Marches, has written, and to whom a license has been granted to receive charitable gifts, he having by sudden rage of fire had his dwelling-house and all that he had consumed. Subjoined is a note that the bakers gave 3*s.* 8*d.*

1582, Aug.—Two bills for expenses connected with a journey to Hereford to secure a house for the judges at the last assizes, and for keep for the judges' horses and servants.

1582, 18 Sept. Plaishe.—Letter to the bailiffs from William Leighton desiring that certain suits against his cook, John Hassald, now in attendance upon him, may be stayed until the said cook's return to Shrewsbury.

1582, 29 Dec. Langley.—Letter to the same from Richard Lee, calling upon them to correct misdemeanours and great abuses perpetrated in an alehouse in Great Barwick, a former monition from him having had no effect. He is continually troubled with complaints that prentices and servants and other unthrifts do not only wilfully consume there in unlawful games all that they have themselves but also neglect their masters' business.

[1582.]—Petition to the same from Frances Andre, now in ward at the Cage, whose husband John Andre, to whom she was married in "Dyvelyn" (Dublin) three years ago, appears to repudiate her as not being his wife.

[1582.]—Petition to the same from Roger Phillips, baker, desiring that he may be satisfied for a diaper napkin and a box, which were sent with fine cakes to their worships, and which though often demanded cannot be obtained.

[1582.]—Letter from Samuel Wisbecke, an apprentice, to his uncle Robert Harding, praying him to get the bailiffs to cancel his indentures, that he may serve the rest of his years with some honest man who is able to keep him and teach him his occupation, for he is evil used; "I am so simpull in aparell that my master will not suffer me to goe any further then they nedes must . . . . . When I goe out they picke quarels on me, and report behind my bake in the stret that I spend ther goods and that I stele ther tymber." Endorsed with a report of the hearing of the case before the bailiffs; the master, Thomas Mynors, and his wife are enjoined to bear no malice towards the apprentice for his complaint; it appears that he is abused as well by his master for not having apparel as by the rudeness of the wife of the master; he is to have all manner of things which an apprentice ought to have for the wholesomeness of his body; any further complaint to be heard and remedied.

[1582.]—Petition to the same from Ellis Beddo, committed to ward, "for that he, contrary to your worshipes proclamation, did goe to sing at undue time of night."

There are several petitions from other persons committed for walking about at undue times at night.

[1582.]—Petition to the same from Thomas Jonson 17 years of age, an apprentice, who has been fined 10*s.* for fighting, for which he was grievously corrected by his master, praying to have the fine remitted, for that he is a very poor boy, in worse estate than any prentice in town, not having anything wherewith to satisfy the fine more than the clothes upon his back, which are not worth ten shillings.

[1582.]—Petition to the same from Thomas Baccus, "translator, alias cobler," praying that his misdemeanours may be forgiven, for which he lieth in ward with a mighty pair of bolts, and he will never offend them or any of their men.

[1582.]—Letter from John Parr to his father John Parr at Shrewsbury, begging that he and the writer's brother will become security for his appearance at the quarter sessions, to which he is committed by Sir Arthur Mainwaring, or else he will be sent to gaol (which will utterly discredit him for ever) upon a pretended charge of attempting to steal a horse. "This misfortune shall be a sufficient warninge for me hereafter to beware of evill companie."

1583, 27 June. Salop.—Letter to the Council of the Marches from William Tenche and Edward Owen, reporting their examination, as ordered, into an affray between one Richard Dryhurst and the watchmen on 22 June. The complaint of Dryhurst and a letter from the Council are with the letter.

1583, 6 Aug. Apley.—Letter from Rowland "Berker" to the bailiffs, William Tench and Eward Owen, thanking them for their willingness to let him have the Council House; whatever any other man will do for the same, he will do the like, and has appointed his brother Chambers and his brother James "Barker" to conclude with them. (The signature alone is autograph.)

1584, 1587–90.—Lists of prisoners, and of prison-fetters, &c. in the custody of the sergeants. There are also lists for 1610, 1618, 1630–95.

1584, 26 March. "From my howse nere Charing Crosse."—Letter to the bailiffs and schoolmaster from Sir T. Bromley, asking them to grant a lease of the tithes of Whitchurch to his servant Thomas Mytton.

1584, 7 Sept.—Copy of a letter from the bailiffs to the Council of the Marches, reporting that they have, as ordered, made diligent search for Thomas Sturry, esq., but that he is not to be found, and that although his dwelling is at Rosse hall in the liberty, where his wife and children now are, and he has lands and tenements, &c., yet these cannot be sequestered, as Richard Lea, esq., holds them as feoffee of trust. Further particulars with regard to the property follow on another paper.

1584, 27 Sept. Ludlow Castle.—Order from the Council of the Marches to Richard Lea, esq., to sequester all the property of Thomas Sturry, gent., which he holds in trust, the said Sturry having disobeyed all the orders made by the Council at the suit of Thomas Sherer, gent.

1584, 3 Oct.—"An inventory of suche things which remayne in the new little chest;" a short list of bonds and other documents. The last item refers to charitable collections made in the town: "ij acquittances for the collecc̃on of Hastings and Geneva."

1584, 8 Oct.—Copy of a further letter from the bailiffs to the Council of the Marches in the case of Thomas Sturry, reporting that all the lands, &c. were conveyed by Sturry's father, Thomas, to Rich. Lea and others for their own use, and not as feoffees of trust, and that Lea, as survivor, now holds them as his own.

1584, 4 Nov.—"Articles to be inquired of for the profit of the towne," respecting the making and selling of candles by various persons.

1584, 8, 20 Nov. London.—Two letters to the bailiffs from W. Weale and John Perche about their proceedings with reference to proposals for a new charter and obtaining a grant of the office of alnager.

[1584?]—Petition to the bailiffs, &c. from two constables of the "Monks Forrett" (Abbey Foregate) for some allowance for their pains, mentioning also that one of them spent twopence for candles "that night when the childe was fownde in St. Chadds churche portche."

158$\frac{4}{5}$, March. London.—Letter to Adam Mytton from W. Weale and John Perche; are about to return home, being wearied with the little progress made in their "endles sute"; all the great personages with whom they have to deal are so busied in parliament matters, and, partly, their minds are so altered by the cross travail so earnestly made against the suit, that the writers are discouraged.

1585, 30 June. Harnege.—Letter to Adam Mytton from William Fouler; desires to know the state of the sickness in the town, that he may signify the same to the judges.

[1585?]—Things which the bailiffs and burgesses desire the Queen should be petitioned to grant to the town: i. the uniting to the town of the parish of the Cross wherein the Moncke Forriat is situated; ii. the site of the old decayed castle for a town gaol; iii. the confirmation of existing charters, the erection of a weekly court instead of a fortnightly one, and the providing endowment for a preacher. [These particulars were granted in the charter of 1586.]

158$\frac{6}{7}$, 6 March. Sarum.—Letter to the Sheriff of Salop, &c., from Henry, earl of Pembroke, appointed President of the Council of the Marches, ordering a muster of all men able to bear arms, and provision to be made for weapons, &c.

Printed in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S., I. 432.

1588, 13 Aug.—Copy of a letter from the Privy Council to the Lord President of the Marches. Whereas advertisement has been received that the Spanish fleet, having taken their course northward, is come to a place called Mor[a]y Frith, and has landed some men, and it is not yet known whether their purpose is to join with the evil affected of that realm, or only to stay and take in fresh water and other necessaries, therefore the 600 footmen and 32 lances, directed to be ready for northern service in the county of Salop, are to be prepared to be sent to any place that may be appointed upon any warning.

1589, 7 Nov.; 1590, 15 Apr.—Two letters to the bailiffs of Shrewsbury from Richard Paule and Hugh Savage, the bailiffs of Bridgnorth, complaining of the illegal taking of toll at Shrewsbury from burgesses of that town.

1590, 2 June.—Letter to the bailiffs from William Gryffith and Robert Brownesword, bailiffs of a town not named, complaining of like illegal taking of toll from burgesses of "this poore towne."

1591, 7 Aug. At Sheffield Lodge.—Letter from Gilbert [earl of] Shrewsbury to the justices of peace in the county, urging collections in each township for the relief of Shiffnal, where both the town and church have been almost entirely consumed by fire, and suggesting the giving a license to the inhabitants to gather benevolence in two shires.

1592.—There is a file of the bailiffs' papers for this year in a very tattered condition, containing coroner's inquisitions, petitions, warrants, &c. Amongst them is a fragment of a copy of a letter from the Council of the Marches to the bailiffs, respecting a suit brought by Francis Englefield to recover some lands granted by the Queen to the Earl of Essex as forfeited by the attainder of Sir Francis Englefield, Knt., for high treason. With the coroner's inquisitions there are inventories and valuations of the goods of two persons who drowned themselves.

1592, July. Cause Castle.—Letter from John Thynne to the bailiffs, offering himself for election as burgess in parliament, to which he has been moved by his good friends in the incorporation, and which he the rather desires "for that my aunsetors weare neare inhabitauntes to Shrewsburye, and for that I conceave a speciall good likynge of your towne and the good governmente thereof." [He was not elected.]

1592, Oct.—Order for return of names of all ale and beer sellers, who are to be charged not to use any manner of game, as tables, cards, dice, "slydethrist" otherwise called "shuffelbord," upon pain of being put down; until further order be taken for the suppressing the great number of ale-houses, being one of the great sores of this commonwealth.

1592, 28 Dec., at Hampton Court.—Letter from the Earl of Essex to the bailiffs, &c., recommending his servant Robert Wright, who is thoroughly known to them, for election as a burgess in parliament.

[1592.]—Letter, written from the Court but not dated, to the bailiffs, signed "W. Burghley," desiring that out of the bequest of 100*l.* now coming to the town by the bequest of Sir Thomas White, a portion may be granted to Thomas Browne of Shrewsbury. "What the man is, how he hath and doth behave himself, what service he hath done to her maiestie and the whole state . . . . is well knowne unto you."

The bequest referred to is the tenth share of money for charitable loans, left to 24 corporate towns, to be taken in turn, and the first occasion for Shrewsbury's receiving it was in 1593. This letter therefore belongs probably to 1592 or 1593. Browne's service in discovery of a supposed plot was in 1571, and he was again busy in 1574. *See* Vol. V. of *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*

159$\frac{2}{3}$, 11 March. From the Court.—Letter to the bailiffs from the Earl of Essex, thanking them for the election of his servant Wright as burgess in Parliament.

Owen and Blakeway, I., 550, where for *Eynes* read *Eyres*.

1593, 15 June. Beawdley.—Letter to the same from M. Sherer, advising them as to steps to be taken to solicit the resort to Shrewsbury of the Council of the Marches.

1593, 8 Oct.—Letter to the same from Richard Herbert and another, certifying that John Mytton, gent., is assessed in Montgomeryshire for the subsidy granted in the last parliament.

1593, 31 Oct. "From my house at Coton in Wemes parish."—Letter to the same from Richard Harrison, expressing his readiness to cease sueing (being bidden by Christ to forgive those that trespass) Robert Kempe upon a bond for money due from his deceased brother John Kempe; will send an attorney to pay what is due from himself to some in Shrewsbury for Mr. John Newport, of Wellington, deceased.

1593, 19 Nov. Grinshill.—Letter to Mr. Laughton, "chiefe precher of the towne of Salop," from John Lawrence, minister of Grinshill, with a list of contributions of rye received for relief of the poor people of Bishop's Castle. "To amplifie it myselfe I am not able, for my stipend for servinge the cure beinge but iiij^{li} is verie litle (you know) for me to live upon, and not sufficient but that I take paynes in teachinge of children, and thereby gett something although not much."

1593, 21 Nov. Ludlow Castle.—Letter to the same from the Council of the Marches, signed by W. Leyghton and H. Touneshead, desiring that a collection may be made on behalf of the inhabitants of Church Stretton who have had their dwelling-houses and goods consumed by fire. On 20 March following, in reply to a letter from Fr. Phillipps, 46*s.* 10*d.* were paid over as the amount of the collection.

[159$\frac{3}{4}$.] At Mr. Norton's, at the Blue Boar in Bookbinder Lane, London.—Letter from Thomas Holand, apothecary, to Mr. Fouler at Harnege Grange, asking his advice as to proceedings, for some alleged wrong, against the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, whose disobedience he had showed to Sir George Carey and Sir Thomas Heneage, being at dinner with one of the sheriffs of London. "I will set them out in print, as you shall se very shortly, that all England may singe and laugh at ther knavery."

159$\frac{3}{4}$, 19 Jan. Salop.—Letter from Adam Mitton to William Fowler, esq., in answer to the preceding letter, which refers to a quarrel in the streets on a Sunday night when Holland was "very farre overseene with drinke."

159$\frac{3}{4}$, 17 Jan. "From Bu[shop's] Castle."—Letter to the bailiffs, signed by eight persons (bailiff and aldermen) with hearty thanks for the contribution of 20*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, for the relief of their poor people, specially acknowledging the help given by the preachers, Mr. Laughton and Mr. Prise.

159$\frac{3}{4}$, 11 Feb. Park Hall.—Letter to the bailiffs from Ro. Pouel, the High Sheriff, about his endeavours to procure the holding the assizes at Shrewsbury.

Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc., 2nd S., V. 294.

1594, 9 Oct.—Letter from the bailiffs to William Fowler, one of the Council of the Marches and steward of the town; about the murder of one Thomas Lacon in a street-quarrel; with a letter from Jo. Croke and Fowler, at Ludlow, 11 Oct., and another from Fowler alone, 13 Oct., relating to the enquiry.

1594, 2 Nov. Haughmond.—Letter to the bailiffs from Rowland Barker, complaining of the assessment of a servant for the subsidy, who is not liable.

1594, 19 Nov. Cond[over].—Letter to the same from H. Touneshend, desiring postponement of the hearing of a case on account of the absence of witnesses.

1594, 28 Nov. Cudington.—Letter to the bailiffs from Rondulphe Brereton, George Bostocke, and Roundale Dod, respecting the due care of certain assignments of trust kept in the exchequer at Shrewsbury for the benefit of the four daughters of John Heath, their kinsman, deceased.

1594, 22 Dec.—Letter to the same from a poor minister, John Parker, thanking them earnestly for the collection, at the motion of Mr. Thomas Laughton, of 2*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* for his relief: "being left and forsaken of this people, and not above x or xii persons of 500 families performinge the payment of my promised stipend, and all by reason I cannot accomplish the servyce requyred at my hands."

1594.—Papers relating to the weekly assessment for relief of the poor, with a list of defaulters in St. Chad's parish.

1594.—Pleadings before the Council of the Marches in a case of Pigeon *v.* Owen and Hughes, 36 Eliz.

159$\frac{4}{5}$, March.—Copies of three orders from the Privy Council for the providing horses for the conveyance from place to place of Captains Jenkin Conway, John Goring, and William Mustion, or Mastion, who are appointed to conduct companies of footmen for service in Ireland; with an order in the case of the last-named to the lord mayor of London and others for the impressing of a chirurgion and a drum for his company. 1 Apr.—Copy of letter from Will. Chandos and Henry Poole at Gloucester, requiring the providing of post-horses for Capt. Mastian (*sic*), and lodging and diet for his company of 94 footmen, who are to embark at West Chester for Ireland.

159$\frac{4}{5}$, 19 March. Dublin Castle.—Pass for William Mynors, gent., to repair to the Court in England.

1595, 7 Apr.—Letter to the bailiffs from Thomas Leighton; understands that one has come to Shrewsbury with commission to press a drum for service in Ireland, and is desirous to take Roger Moynes, who

has been always employed by the writer as a drum for the training of his soldiers; and whereas he is charged to be ready with all his soldiers at an hour's warning for the Queen's service, he desires that the bailiffs will take care that the said Roger Moynes be not pressed.

1595, 11 Apr.—Letter to the bailiffs from Richard Prynce, asking that a collection may be made at the next sermon at St. Chad's for the relief of a very poor man, Thomas Shaw, aged 91, who is not able to work.

[1595.]—Letter to the same from Richard Anderton, a sherman, desiring that a general watch may be kept this night for John Raban, a carrier dwelling in "Bernyngam"; he and the whole crew went to Tong on Wednesday, yesternight to Bruton in Cheshire; this night they are appointed to be at Chester, whither the writer will ride presently, for so he has sent word to Mr. Waadde the secretary of her Majesty's Council. [This was found among the papers of 1571, but must relate to the business of the following letter.]

1595 [Apr.].—Letter to the same (very roughly and indistinctly written) from Richard Anderton, a prisoner in ward, demanding to know the cause of his commitment, and that he may be released forthwith [to go to London to attend upon his master lord Hunsdon upon St. George's day. He came post with his commission concerning certain traitors that John Raban conveyed from London. Two of the said traitors he followed on foot to Hampton; on Wednesday night last they all lay at Tunge; on Thursday they separated, but the writer brought two, one being the chief traitor, Mr. Jonson, Master of Arts, brought up at Oxford, well known to Mr. Jordan, preacher and minister of Wyllynton parish, and the other unknown, to Shrewsbury on Thursday at 11 o'cl. at night, but could at that time find no bailiffs or sergeants, and the traitors "went over thys brygge to what place I know not" [and escaped].

The description of Jonson, the Oxford M.A., follows on a separate scrap of paper: about 30 years of age, a proper fine man with a yellow beard, a "toppynge" hat, a doublet of black lye grogram laid on with black lace, a pair of old (?) boots, and a gold ring on his fourth finger: Mr. Jurdan of Welyngton knoweth the traitor: "nowe rydden towards the Poole, as I understand; therefore let the sheroffe rid after."

1595, 19 Apr. Whitehall.—Copy of an order for the supply of post-horses to William Rowland, gent., employed in her Majesty's affairs to the town of Carnarvon.

1595, 30 Apr. Greenwich.—Similar order with regard to William Wyne, esq, going to the county of Carnarvon.

1595, 18 May. Ludlow Castle.—Letter to the bailiffs from W. Leyghton and Thomas Cornwaill, two members of the Council of the Marches, desiring the stay of a suit respecting the title of the ground called Kingsland and the right of common there, until the time previously fixed, viz. 18 June, by the Council for the ordering of the matter by Richard Corbet, esq. and Francis Newport, esq.

1595, 25 May. Okes.—Letter to the same from W. Sherer respecting some letters sent by him to the Council of the Marches.

1595, 3 June. Harnege.—Letter to the same from William Fouler, on behalf of his friend John Shelvocke, who having had his house and barn, with all his goods to the value of 60*l.*, besides his books, utterly

consumed by fire, has obtained letters placards from the Council in the Marches to take the charitable benevolence of well-disposed people. Desires that Mr. Lawton and the rest of the ministers may be asked to cause his letters to be read in their several parishes, that he may receive some relief, and that the magistrates will show him what favour they can.

1595, 8 July. Mariton.—Letter to the same from Rychard Lloyd, John Hockleton and George Harries. Forasmuch as it hath pleased God to visit their vicar with sickness, so that he cannot do the requisite duties, such as he usually did accomplish, they have thought it very necessary to procure some other minister to supply his place, sufficient for learning, honest for behaviour, and sound and zealous for religion, and finding their neighbour, the bearer hereof, Mr. Jervis Thomas, a graduate of the university of Oxford, and a qualified preacher, they request that he may be approved to supply the necessity, not in any sort to dispossess the Vicar, neither to diminish his living, being but poor and having no other means; but if it should please the Almighty to call the poor man away, that then this bearer should succeed him, according to the desire of the parish. [The name of Jervis Thomas is not found in Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses*.]

1595, 11 Nov. High Ercall.—Letter to the same from Sir Francis Newport.—Hearing that they intend to build a new market-house he commends to them a mason of approved skill and honesty, Walter Hancocke. It is not unknown to them that the writer has had great cause to make trial of workmen, and therefore can well write of his own knowledge and experience that they cannot match the man in these parts in science and judgment of workmanship, or in plainness and honesty to deal withal; prays that he may undertake the work more in good will to the town than to him, although he loves the man well; knows that if Mr. Justice Owen were in the country, he would say as much on Hancock's behalf.

[1595.]—Petition to the same from Evan Davyes, curate of St. Mary's, who had long served under Mr. John Tompkys the late minister, and was appointed by the preceding bailiffs to serve in the same place after his decease, for one quarter, which expired at Michaelmas day last; but the bailiff of the school, the usual payer of the minister's stipend, refuses to pay him.

[1595.]—Petition to the same from Adam Bradshaw for the yearly allowance of 26*s*. 8*d*. for keeping the clock in the Booth Hall.

[1595 ?]—Twelve minute "Interrogatories to be ministered to Marie Modlicot alias Higgons," as to her attendance upon her brother Richard Modlicott during an illness, tending to show that she had been bribed to poison him, by some "herb, powder, root, confection, oil, ointment or other thing." A letter from Richard Modlicott to Adam Mytton about some law proceedings, dated 19 Apr., is written by him as "a languishing patient."

[1595 ?]—Petition to the bailiffs from five persons who, having a special care and love towards the maintenance of artillery, as a game not only allowed by the laws of the realm of England but also most laudable to be exercised by all men, did of their own proper costs and charges erect for the parish of St. Julian's in the common lane near to the Hermitage, in the liberties, a pair of butts, complaining that one Thomas Griffiths (son of Griffith Lewis, the common apparitor or

somner for the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, whose house called the Hermitage is accompted a house to retain people of bad behaviour) did pull down and subvert the said butts, to the only intent to suppress that good exercise and to maintain bowling; they pray that he may not only receive condign punishment, but may erect the butts again.

159$\frac{5}{6}$, 24 Feb.—Letter to the bailiffs from William Fouler, recommending two persons to be licensed to sell ale; will not write on the behalf of any but such as he takes to be honest and of a good conversation and behaviour in their house.

1596, 12 Sept. Greenwich.—Copy of an order for post-horses for Capt. Henry Tolliet going to Chester to embark for Ireland.

1596, 26 Oct. Serjeants' Inn, Fleet Street.—Copy of a letter to the justices of peace in the county of Salop from William Peryam and Matthew Ewens, respecting the Queen's instructions for the providing for the due bringing of corn to market and mitigating the great price thereof.

[1596-7 ?]—[Ten] "Articles injoyned by the Q. Majesty uppon her subjects for thavoidinge of God's wrathe against this realme," in a time of dearth and scarcity. Prayers on Wednesdays and Fridays; fast days to be observed, and that which is saved by sparing to be given to the poor; collections to be made; persons not to break up house and leave their habitations, nor discharge servants for [the sake of] sparing; &c.

1597, 14 Apr. Whitehall.—Copy of an order for post horses for Capt. Crofts appointed to go into Ireland with 100 men levied in the counties of Montgomery and Radnor.

1597, 30 July.—Similar order for John Welsore.

1597, 25 Apr.—Copy of a letter to the justices in the county from Will. Peryam and Matth. Ewens, for a return of the number of ale-houses, in pursuance of commandment from the Lord Keeper for utterly suppressing their unnecessary number, and that none be henceforth suffered to continue but such as shall be very needful and well ordered.

1597.—Two letters, from London, to Mr. Webb and Mr. Gibbons, the bailiffs, the one signed by Edw. Bulkeley and Th. Laughton, dated 10 May, the other from Laughton alone (Bulkeley's son-in-law) "from my house in Great St. Bartholomew's," dated 2 July. Having been asked to find a preacher for the town, they have endeavoured to do so but those whom they thought qualified decline the place on account of the stipend being too slender for these hard times. They proposed the uniting of St. Mary's to the preachership, but have had no reply to their proposal. Laughton is now so infirm and ill that he desires to be eased of the burden of finding a preacher and that the bailiffs will take it upon themselves; but he recommends Mr. Thomas Higgons who is near them and well known to them.

159$\frac{7}{8}$, March.—Papers relating to the purchase of 600 quarters of wheat, "maneskorn," rye (200 quarters) and barley by the Corporation of Shrewsbury from one Thomas Oxwick of Walsingham, Norfolk, for transportation by sea to Bristol, and thence by the Severn, for the relief of the poor people of Shrewsbury, in a time of scarcity. Petition from the Corporation to the Council of the Marches for warrants from the Privy Council for free transportation. Letter from Thomas Browne, an agent employed in procuring the corn; in consequence of 4,000

quarters of rye being sent to Ireland, the price of rye has risen from 30*s.* to 34*s.* a quarter, to be had of the merchants at Bristol by Bristol measure (which is better than London or Winchester) at 40*s.* Copies of other letters and instructions.

1598.—Proceedings in a long suit concerning tolls levied in Shrewsbury, 40 Eliz.

1599, 16 Apr.—Letter from the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, John Percho and Richard Dawes, to Thomas Brabant, the minister of Astley, notifying the appointment of overseers with the churchwardens, for relief of the poor in St. Mary's parish (of which Astley is a member) according to the Act of Parliament, and desiring a return of the poor persons to be relieved in Astley ; with his answer subjoined, giving a list of seven people relieved by the churchwardens and overseers in the preceding year.

1600, 2 June. Clifford's Inn.—Letter from Nicholas Gibbons to the bailiffs, respecting a case as to the staying of some corn from crossing the bridge until the pontage-toll was paid, whereas it was not due until the bridge was crossed.

1601, 31 May. Greenwich.—Copy of a letter from the Privy Council to the High Sheriff and Justices of Salop. A great part of the Welsh cloths which are taken to London are bought by French merchants, and of late years fault has been found with them after their being transported into France, whereby the cloth of this realm that heretofore had reputation to be the truest and best made, hath not only been discredited, but the French King hath taken occasion to confiscate all those English cloths that have been found, upon trial by water or otherwise, to shrink, cockle, or be in any wise defective ; therefore if the abuses in making of false cloth be not corrected, the trade will be in peril to be overthrown. And the chief abuse being in colouring defects by stretching defective cloths upon tenters, a thing forbidden by Act of Parliament, therefore not only the use of tenters in stretching cloths or cottons shall not be suffered, but all ropes, rings and wrenches to stretch cloths, with the heads and lower bars of the tenters and all other engines and means for straining of cloth either in length or breadth, shall be abolished and quite taken away.

temp. Eliz.—A petition to the bailiffs signed by 17 persons prays that they will without delay see that the arrears of the fee-farm rent to the Crown and the proffers in the Exchequer are paid, as otherwise the charter of the town may be forfeited.

temp. Eliz.—Letter from H. Tounesheud, the steward of Shrewsbury, to the bailiffs, bidding them to come prepared with their charters to justify before the Council of the Marches their imprisoning of a person who has petitioned against them ; the Castle at Ludlow, 24 Feb.

temp. Eliz.—Copy of an order from the Council of the Marches to the bailiffs of Gloucester, to appear at Ludlow Wednesday after Midlent Sunday to answer to a complaint of the burgesses of Shrewsbury for arresting merchandise passing by the Severn for toll, contrary to their privileges.

temp. Eliz.—Petition from John Gyttyns the younger, for discharge from imprisonment, having been committed " for playing at the foot balle upon Shroftusdaie, and for throwinge the balle from hime whene the serigent Hardinge demaunded the same."

temp. Eliz.—Petition from Margaret Freman for release " oute of this misserable prison " of the Burgess Gate, where she lies upon the

bare boards, overpressed with irons, and ready to starve with hungers, justly punished for speaking certain idle words of Mr. Tonks [Tomkys] the public preacher.

temp. Eliz.—Petition in the name of the burgesses: 1. that the pasture called Behind the Walls may be enclosed this winter season from rooting with swine, and that the inhabitants may have their cattle there: 2. that the pastures be not let to any private person, but kept for the use of the poor burgesses, after the rate of 10*s.* a beast summering: 3. for that some think it more beneficial to set it to such as will give most for it, "for answere therto I say . . . . so many of you as be of that mynde have small regard to the due consederacion of the comon welthe, for ys yt a comon welthe to oppress ourselffs with our owne, and not to be comforted and cherished by the same?" 4. That the poor may have the benefit and partiality be avoided, let the names of the most needful, who have kine to be relieved, be put in a bag to the number of 100 more or less, and so many be taken out for the first year as the pasture will well bear, and the rest remain for the next year.

[1605?]—Petition to the bailiffs from William Gylson, milner, imprisoned for profaning the Sabbath-day, in carrying of meal and travelling with his ware, contrary to their proclamation.

1608, 23 Nov. York House.—Letter to the bailiffs from Lord Ellesmere, the Chancellor, recommending a petition from Thomas Higgons, gent., "whoes father I knew long, and loved for the good I knew in him; and I hear no lesse good report of this his sonne."

1614.—Petition to Richard Hunt and Thomas Gardner, the bailiffs, from Thomas Stubbe, complaining of the noisome condition of the lane leading from St. Alkmund's vicarage to the Hey Street, one end of which was granted to the parishioners of St. Julian's, and by that means stopped, and made a mixen place and worse, and offering to take the place at a yearly rent, and he will pave it and drain it, "and withal will plante that odious place with odoriferous herbes and flowers." An order to view and report is subjoined, but apparently nothing was done, for in 1622–3 there is a petition from George Hunt complaining of the same lane as being most vilely and unseemly polluted, and that there is a noisome mixen continually haunted with swine.

1615, 28 Aug.—Pardon under the great seal to John Davies, miller, for knowingly receiving and harbouring one William Dennys who on 28 Nov. 1613, broke into the Exchequer of Salop, and stole 29*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

162$\frac{2}{3}$, Feb.—Returns, in pursuance of an order from the High Commission, to the bailiffs of the quantities of overplus-corn remaining in the liberties and in the parish of St. Julian which can be brought to market.

1623, 1 Sept. Shiffnal manor.—Letter to the bailiffs from Edward Bromley, complaining that they have not punished one Walter Grynsell, tanner, for shameful speeches offered by him in open court to the writer's cousin Thomas Owen, the town clerk, and desiring that they will bind Grynsell over to appear at the next gaol delivery, and meanwhile to be of good behaviour.

1628, 9 June. Chirbury.—Letter to the bailiffs from George Bray and Hugh Whalley, churchwardens of Chirbury, informing them that

on last Sabbath day, 8 June, an instrument was fixed on the church door by the apparitor of the Bishop of Hereford, intimating to the patrons that Mr. Davies, late vicar, had resigned the vicarage; which they therefore notify, as the advowson has been conferred under the Great Seal on the bailiffs and burgesses.

1629.—Petition to the bailiffs, Rich. Gibbons and Will. Rowley, from Peter Studley, curate of St. Chad's, desiring that in consideration of his, for peace sake, giving up his claim to some small tithes in Frankwell which the Free School has deprived him of, by his consent, because he has not leisure nor liking to attend upon troublesome suits, they will grant him 44*s.* yearly to make up the rent of 7*l.* 4*s.* which he has to pay yearly to the Crown for his Easter book and for some pastures belonging to the town, and towards which they have for the last three years given him 5*l.* yearly. In this they will settle peace between the Church and the School, and gratify the request of the Bishop and the Chancellor. He also asks that they will pay 53*s.* 2*d.* which Mr. Typton hath caused to be spent in a needless suit, for which he will forego the two last years' rents of tithes, for which he has not recovered one penny.

1632, March.—Petition from Thomas Lloyd, vicar of St. Alkmond's, to be admitted a burgess without fine, he being a widower, and not likely to have any issue, in consideration of his having ever since the plague began read morning prayer daily within his parish, where the people of the town daily resort in a greater number than they formerly did, to his great danger. Agreed to, 30 March.

163$\frac{4}{5}$, March.—Petition from Richard Davyes, a "trowman" (or boatman), praying that he may have his burgessship freely, in consideration of his assisting to break the ice in the river when the last great frost went away that it might have passage through the Stone Bridge, bringing timber, &c., when part of the bridge fell, and his saving a woman from drowning. Granted, 23 March.

1639, 3 July, Ludlow.—Letter from Tym. Tourneur (the Recorder) to Thomas Jones, Esq., mayor. "The assises nowe drawe neare. You know how you were blamed the last assises that you had not done fitting observances to my lords the judges of our circuite in producing to them our new charter, and presenting them with velvet coates, or to make them coates; the things to be done are neither chargeable nor trowblesome. The displeasure that may encrease by the neglect may be verie prejudiciall to our towne, and confirme our censure of pride. It is unsaffe and indiscreete for us to contend with judges. I pray you consult with the company about it, and resolve on a course to recover that we have lost."

1641.—Petition from the fraternity or company of corvisours, representing that in other cities and corporations, market-places and certain days are assigned for the open searching, sealing, and selling of leather, in accordance with the law, but that for want of such in Shrewsbury, tanners sell leather there in private, some half-tanned and some half-dried, and the searchers and sealers visit and seal privately, by which covert dealing much ill-tanned and bad-conditioned leather is vented, and the petitioners and others defrauded and deceived. They pray therefore that a fitting market-place and a certain weekly market-day be appointed for the public searching, sealing and selling of all leather. Endorsed with an order on 12 Nov. 1641 for consideration and report.

1644, March-Oct.—Warrants and orders respecting the collection of assessments for Prince Rupert's forces, with depositions of many persons respecting their income, including one William Boraston, gentleman and practitioner in physic.

1660.—A roll of eighty-six declarations, on parchment, chiefly by tradesmen of Shrewsbury, of their laying hold of the King's pardon as promised in the Breda Declaration. Among the signatures are those of Capt. Edward Turner and of several soldiers in his company, Richard Bagot, esq., Daniel Jenks, gent., Robert Lathropp, gent., Humphrey Mackworth, esq., John Evanson, gent., Richard Smith of Great Ness, gent., Edward Baudewin of Diddlebury, esq., Gabriel Lloyd of Poole, gent., Francis Tallents, clerk, Richard Heath, vicar of St. Alkmond's, Moses Leigh, clerk, and Creswell Tayleur of Rodington, esq.

The list of names is printed, with notes by Rev. N. Auden, in *Trans. of Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.*, 2nd S. II. 144–158.

1661, 15 Nov.—Copy of a petition from the Corporation to the House of Commons, praying that nothing may be done to hinder the working of the coal mines at Madeley, Broseley, and Bentall, which have been erroneously represented as being in danger of being wholly exhausted, by the introduction of coal from other places, which is being endeavoured by the making the brook Stower in Staffordshire and Worcestershire navigable, for private interests upon pretence of public good.

1688, 8 Dec.—Copy of a letter [from the Mayor] to a peer, informing him that the town is open and ungarrisoned, and that he can enter without any opposition.

Owen and Blakeway, I., 499.

1798, 6 Nov.—Printed form of license for aliens, filled up with the name of John Juison, licensed to reside in Shrewsbury for one month; in pursuance of the proclamation for registering of aliens.

A bundle of tattered and imperfect market accounts of sales of cattle and horses, extending from 1525 to 1668 in occasional years, possesses interest, not merely from their being probably unique in point of date, but from their giving descriptions of the animals, with prices, and names of buyers and sellers.

W. D. Macray.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF SIR WALTER O. CORBET, OF ACTON REYNALD, BART.

At Acton Reynald, Shropshire, the seat of Sir Walter Orlando Corbet, Bart. (representative of a Norman family settled in the same county from the time of the Conquest), there is a small collection of early documents, out of which all that belong to the period ending with the close of the reign of Henry III. are noticed in the following list, with a selection from those of later date. The total number preserved amounts to 287 up to 1507, the year of the accession of Henry VIII., while of subsequent reigns, especially of that of Elizabeth, the number of title-deeds is large. But the results of examination are, on the whole, somewhat disappointing, although much of local interest occurs. There are no materials for general history. Of the Civil War period there is nothing; a period which from the part taken by different members of the family on different sides might have been expected to have rewarded search. But possibly there may have been destruction of documents and papers when the chief house of the family at Moreton Corbett (which still testifies in its ruins to its former importance and beauty) was, after occupation by a parliamentary garrison in 1644, dismantled and abandoned.

The charters relating to the abbeys of Haughmond and Lilleshall, and the little known one of Stratt Marchell in Montgomeryshire, are of special interest, and help to supplement the meagre accounts found elsewhere. And the small and obscure hospital of St. Leonard at Clattercote, near Cropredy, in Oxfordshire, said by Tanner to have been for leprous brethren, is here found described as a hospital for sick women. Examples of manumissions are found in 1350 and 1406. The lease of parish property at Shawbury in 1533, and the license for the churchyard at Broseley in 1595, are interesting. The deeds relating to the town of Northampton would not have been looked for here.

W. D. Macray.

August 1895.

The earliest deed is one of the reign of Henry I.; a grant of Hortun (near Wem) by Hugh Fitz-Richard to William Macer, or Macrus:— "Hugo filius Ricardi omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglicis salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse Willelmo Macro et heredibus suis adtenendum de me et de heredibus meis in feudo et hereditate Hortunam pro servicio unius militis, et si plus valet quam x libras in bene (*sic*) et in pace teneat, si minus de mea propria hereditate ei perficiam. Hujus donationis et concessionis sunt testes: M. uxor ejus, Willelmus filius suus, et Ricardus filius suus, et Adeliza filia sua, et Reinaldus frater domini, et Engenulfus, et Walchelinus, et Osbertus de Luneccumba, et Henricus filius ejus, et Rogerus Pincerna, et Rogerus Cocus, et Willelmus de Herefordia, et Efrardus, et Piritunus, et Herveus Guun, et Randulfus Macrus, et Ruellanus Macrus, et Iwennus Macrus, et Lanbertus, et Rodbertus de Duneuic, et Willelmus de Fretai, et Gaufredus de Clint.' " A small fragment of a large white seal is attached.

The next is probably of the time of Henry II., early in his reign; a grant from Simon de Beauchamp (who died 9 Joh. 1207) to Simon de Pateshille of rent from the mill at Linslade, Buckinghamshire:—"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Simon de Bello Campo dedi et hac carta mea confirmavi Simoni de Pateshille pro homagio et servicio suo duas marcatas redditus in molendino meo de Linchelade, tenendas, de me et de heredibus meis sibi et heredibus suis libere et quiete et solute ab omni servicio per una (*sic*) calcaria deaurata, vel per quatuor denarios, annuatim reddendo ad Pascha, pro omni servicio. Has autem duas marcatas redditus ego et heredes mei warentizabimus prefato Simoni et heredibus suis, et si forte eis warentizare illas non poterimus, eis escambium plenarie faciemus inde de aliis terris nostris in Bedefordsire, et de hoc redditu ipsum Simonem saisivi, et homagium suum inde cepi. Coram his testibus: Waltero Ruffo, Roberto de Barentin, Henrico de Boheles, Galfredo Ruffo, Pagano filio Brien, Eustachio le Mordand', Jerino de la Lega, Godefredo Ruffo, Rogero de Wichetone, Radulfo de Grimescote, Willelmo Druelle, Nicholao filio Michaelis, Roberto de Langeforde, Radulfo Druelle, David de Haclntone (*sic*), Henrico de Norbois, Henrico de Haclintone, Roberto de Arundel, Hugone de Blosseville, Roberto de Wahille, Michaele de Raustone, et multis aliis. Item Johanne de Panpbenham, Simone Parcesvil, Waltero de Boheles, Michaele Hachun, et multis aliis."

Confirmation by Henry II. to Haughmond Abbey of grants from William Fitzalan, the founder:—"H. Rex Angl. et Dux Norm. et Aquit. et Com. And. archiepiscopis, episcopis, abbatibus, comitibus, baronibus, justiciariis, vicecomitibus, ministris, et omnibus hominibus et fidelibus suis Francis et Anglis, salutem. Sciatis me concessisse et carta mea presenti confirmasse ecclesie Sancti Johannis Evangeliste de Hageman et canonicis in ea Deo servientibus quicquid Willelmus filius Alani rationabiliter eidem ecclesie dedit et carta sua confirmavit, videlicet terram de Pipringues cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et omnibus libertatibus ejus in campis et pascuis et aquis, liberam ab omnibus terrenis consuetudinibus, auxiliis, operacionibus, scutagiis, exercitibus, danegeldis, hidagiis, hidegeldis, et placitis, et communitatem propriis animalibus suis in omnibus pasturis que pertinent ad villam de Stoches, in bosco et plano, et alneto, sicut animalia Aveline matris Willelmi filii Alani aliquo tempore eandem communitatem melius habuerunt, et ecclesiam de Stoches cum terra que ad eandem ecclesiam pertinet, et terram de Donstona quam tenuit Marescot, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, quam ipse Willelmus eis dedit assensu Isabel uxoris sue,* et Naguinton cum pertinentiis suis, et Hopelege cum pertinentiis suis. Quare volo et firmiter precipio quod predicti canonici teneant hec predicta bene et integre et libere et quiete et honorifice, sicut carte ejusdem Willelmi filii Alani testantur. T. Thoma Canc., Roberto de Donstanvilla, Man. Biset, Joscelino de Baillol, Roberto filio com. de Legr., Apereo (?) Leons."

Fitz Alan's grant of Hopley, confirmed in the preceding charter, is found here, but not the other grants. It is as follows: "W. fil. Al. omnibus filiis matris ecclesie salutem. Notum sit vobis Osbertum de Hoptun concessisse et dedisse quod sui juris erat in Hopeleia fratribus Hamonensis ecclesie in perpetuam elemosinam, et Hugo Hose pro

* In Banks' *Dormant and Extinct Baronage* this Isabel [de Sai] is described as wife of the first William Fitz Alan, father of the donor to the abbey, and the donor's mother Avelina, mentioned above, is omitted. Isabel is correctly described in G. E. C's *Complete Peerage*, Vol. III., 1890.

anima Ricardi de Merchemerle, et Heldestoc pro animabus patris et matris sue calumpniam quam habebat in predicta terra dimisisse in sempiternum, ut libere et quiete ab omni seculari servicio, in bosco et plano, in viis et in aquis, et in omnibus locis, quantum ad istos et ad predictam terram pertinet, prenominati fratres possideant. Et scitote Osbertum de Hopt[un] etiam de terra sua de Hop[tun] dimidium ferdellum dedisse in elemosinam tam liberam et quietam sicut ipse liberius in elemosinam dare potuit, me hoc concedente et confirmante quantum ad meum servitium pertinet, R. filio Aluri concedente et testificante, cum his aliis, Johanne Extraneo, Hemming sacerdote, et Waltero Hose, et R. filio Siwar, et Al. filio Oliver, et Hugone filio Albert, cum aliis pluribus. Valete." And the grant of Hopley is made also to the church and canons of "Hagamon" by John de Merchemelega, who leaves his body "predicte ecclesie de Hagamon ubicunque obiero, nisi in Essexia tantum, sepeliendum." The witnesses to his charter are William fitz Alan, Hugh Panton, Hugh de Sai, Peter de Mortun and Bartholomew his son, Odo de Hodenent (*sic*), Robert de Sai, Jordan de Hespele, Hugh de Lescofort, Roger de Hefkeston, Walter de Hoptun.

Temp. Hen. II.—Grant to Haughmond from Walter de Clifford (II., 1170–1220). "Sciant omnes tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Walterus de Clifford filius Walteri filii Ricardi, filii Puncii, concessi et hac carta mea confirmavi Deo et ecclesie Sancti Johannis Evangeliste de Hagemon et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus donacionem quam dominus meus Hugo de Sai et soror mea Lucia uxor illius dederunt et concesserunt in molendino de Bechesford et carta sua confirmaverunt. His testibus: Hugone de Sai, Ricardo de Clifford, Gileberto Giffard, Willelmo Carbonello, Achille de Beche et Rogero fratre ejus, Tery de Haia et Ricardo de Haia, Ricardo capellano et alio Ricardo capellano, Thoma capellano, Waltero clerico Hugonis de Sai, Hugone de Kattford." A large green seal is attached, but broken; a knight on horseback, "Sigill'. Will'. Clifford."

1174–1179. Agreement between abbot Walter of Lilleshall [abbot 1174–1203] and Richard de Charlton. "Hec est conventio inter abbatem Walterum de Lillesh.' ejusque conventum et Ricardum de Cherletun. Ipse Ric. cognoscit et testificatur se tenuisse tenementum quod Cherl.' dicitur per gratiam Willelmi abbatis quam diu ipse abbas Willelmus viveret, et nichil juris in eodem tenemento habuisse aut adhuc habere. Quapropter reddidit totum tenementum Waltero abbati et conventui, et ipse abbas et conventus concesserunt ei tenere tres virgatas predicti tenementi in vita sua, reddendo annuatim ecclesie de Lillesh.' in die S. Michaelis unam petram cere. Quartam vero virgatam retinuit abbas in dominicum suum. Predictus autem Ric. fide et sacramento coram conventu se obstrinxit quod neminem suorum predictam possessionem invadere aut ab ecclesia de Lillesh.' alienare permittet. Quod si ipse Ric. memoratam terram in manu sua tenere noluerit aut nequiverit, nulli tam tenendam aut colendam nisi abbati committere poterit. Si vero vitam suam mutare voluerit, apud domum de Lillesh.' religionis habitum induet, et moriens corpus suum cum terra sepedicta libere et quiete committet. His testibus: Widone vicecomite [*sheriff until* 1179], Marscote, magistro Alano, magistro Rodberto decano, Hugone filio Noel, Simone de Perepont, Petro filio Thoreth et Philippo filio ejus, Rodberto de Scageburie et Widone filio ejus, Ricardo Picot et Nicolao filio Marscot, Rodberto de Sugenhul, Helia Coudrel, Radulfo de Bromhale, Rodberto de Bruge, Rein. clerico vicecomitis, Herberto filio Adam, magistro Ricardo de Curchun, Rodberto de Actun, et Adam de Andreslawa, et Hundredo de Pebenhul, cum multis aliis."

Circa 1200.—Grant from William L'Estrange to Lilleshall Abbey. "Universis sancte matris ecclesie [&c.] Magister Willelmus Extraneus filius Johannis Extranei salutem in vero Salutari. Noverit universitas vestra me pro salute anime mee et omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Deo et ecclesie Beate Virginis Marie de Lilleshalle et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus venditionem quam Rogerus Capellanus de Sancta Maria predictis canonicis fecit de quodam mesuagio cum pertinentiis juxta ecclesiam Sancte Juliane in Salopesburia, illo scilicet quod est inter terram que fuit Ernaldi de Coventre et terram Herberti filii Walteri, salvo redditu meo, videlicet sex denarios, quos predicti canonici mihi et successoribus meis annuatim in die Sancti Michaelis pro omni servicio seculari et exactione persolvent. Et ut hec mea concessio rata, stabilis, et inconcussa in perpetuum permaneat, eam presentis scripti munimine et sigilli mei appositione corroboravi. His testibus: Ricardo Pigot, Willelmo filio Fromundi, Petro clerico, Roberto Scot, Joseph clerico, Willelmo fratre ejus, Ricardo le Vilain et Willelmo filio Willelmi tunc prepositis,* Reginaldo de Hibernia, Herberto de Bruge, Philippo filio Jurdani, Petro filio Ricardi, Roberto Plummario." A small fragment of a green seal, bearing the word "Sigillum," remains attached.

Temp. Rich. I.? Grant from Roger de Egbaldesham, son of Roger, to "Hagamon" Abbey of one virgate of his land at Egbaldesham in the parish of Saubure, which is held by Osbern. Witn. Will. de Hethlega, Reginald de Tyrna, Baldwin Wischar, Stephen de Stantun, Henry the clerk of Witheford, Wido de Saubure, Roger de Begessowre, Robert son of Aer, Reiner de Hacton, Michael de Withintun.

Confirmation of this grant by Vivian de Roshele. Witn., Ralph Hose and William his brother, Hamo son of Marescoth, Wido de Saubire, Reginald de Tirne, Rob. le Poer, Henry the clerk, Henry Hose, Ovieth, Rich. de Muclitun, Simon de Jagedune, Philip de Gulidone. Large green seal, a knight on horseback. Insc. broken: ". . . . viani fil . . . ." See Eyton, *Antiq. of Shropshire*, IX., 323.

Temp. Hen. III., early in his reign.—"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Thomas filius Roberti Corbet vendidi et quietum clamavi, et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi, de me et heredibus meis imperpetuum Johanni seniori filio Johannis Extranei et toto comuni de burgo Salopesberie totam terram cum omnibus edificiis et pertinenciis suis in burgo de Salopesberie que fuit quondam Roberti Bangorensis episcopi, pro xx^ti^ libris argenti quas mihi dederunt, reddendo inde singulis annis ecclesie Beate Marie Salopesberie in festo Pasche debitam firmam pro omni servitio, videlicet xi. denarios et obolum." Witn. Robert Lenfant† and Andrew son of Hubert, provosts of Shrewsbury, Richard le Vilein, Clement son of Peter, Herbert de Atingeham the official of Shrewsbury, John Pooer, Richard Pride, Reiner Ruffus, Thomas son of William the Coroner, Peter le Vilei[n], John Cnotte. Green seal of arms, broken; shield bearing a raven; "Sigill' . . . . Corbet."

Grant from Hugh son of Gollan the Knight of Stowe to God, SS. Mary and Leonard, and the canons and brethren of the order of Semp-[r]ingham "custodientibus infirmas de Claterecote" (Oxon) of a rent of ten shillings which Sir Symon de Croppria (Cropredy) was accustomed to pay him annually. Witn., William, chaplain of Croppria, Richard de Grimescote, Anselm his son, Fulk Basset, Rich. de

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* Apparently the earliest provosts of Shrewsbury on record. *See* Owen and Blakeway's *Hist. of Shrewsbury*, I. 523; Richard le Vilain is there called Richard Rusticus.

† Robert Infans, or le Child. *Ibid.*, 523, 524.

Prestecote, Rich. de Willcote, Will. de Stokes, Rich. Thaillard, Will, Ulger, Thomas Smarth.

1239, Nov., 24 Hen. III.—Fine by which Richard Corbet agrees to do service for one knight's fee to William de Skalebroc for the tenement which Peter son of Oliver holds of the said Richard in Haseleye, and for the tenement which John de Seyvile held of him in Skalebroc in Yorkshire, and also the said Richard gave the said William sixty shillings.

Temp. Hen. III. or Edw. I.—Grant by Henry de Erdintone to Rob. de Stantone and Emma his wife, for the sum of 24 marks, of his mills at Schaweburi. Witn., Sir John de Ercalewe and Sir John fitz Aer, knts., Rob. Corbet of Morton, Reyner lord of Acton, Philip lord of Penynton, Roger of Preston below Brochurst, Will. Cresset of Little Wythiford, John le Wrothe of Morton Toret, Albert son of John of Estleye.

Temp. Hen. III.—Quit-claim by Emma Banestre, after divorce from her husband Adam, to the canons of Haghemon of one virgate of land in Egebaldeham which Rob. Wercee formerly held. Witn., Sir Rich. Corbet, Richard son of Geoffrey of Egebaldeham, Wido de Hadenhale, Thomas Crasset, Reginald de Wythiford. Oval green seal; a floriated device; "Sigill' Emme uxoris Will'i Banast'."

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant by Robert lord of Espele to Haghemon abbey of the agreement which he made with Thomas Bosse, son of Thomas Bosse, respecting "illa warda" of land in Hopton which Alexander son of Helias had. Witn., Henry de Pechesey, John de Soces, Roger son of Tho. de Hopton, Robert de Winekeshul, John de Cliva.

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant by Reginald de Stanwardin in le Felde to Sir Rich. de Lehtone of leave "ad faciendum probum suum et aprucat[um]" at his will in his wood of Wolvinewode. Witn., Will. de Ondeslawe, Will. de Fennimara, Will. de Eytone, Rich. Knit de Walleford, John de Mere.

1241.—Grant from Jewaff Vachan, son of Jewaff, son of Henry, to the abbot and convent of Strattmarchell (in Montgomeryshire) of all the lands which were sold to them by his father; and also "de terra "extirpacionis proxima acre que vocatur Grofftadam plenariam quanti- "tatem ejusdem acre in longitudine et latitudine prout discreti viri "melius indicaverint mensurandam"; and also all his right in the land called Kenew Elhameston. Witn., Kadugan prior of Strattmarchell, John, Kadugan, monks of the same house; and of secular persons, Eynnius son of Maredud, Jorwhert son of Madauc and Griffin his brother, Eynnius son of Griffud and Heylin his brother.

1249, Oct., 33 Hen. III.—Grant from Richard the abbot and convent of Lilleshull to Robert Corbet of Morton of "quandam placiam in Cherletone ad pratum faciendum subtus castrum suum de Mortone"; with minute conditions, and description of boundaries. Witn., Peter Corbet, Alan Corbet, Rich. de Pectone, Nich. de Fortone, clerk, Geoffrey de Mockleston, clerk, Rob. de Costentin, Will. de Doniton, clerk.

1252, Nov., 37 Hen. III.—Release from the lady Mabel, widow of Sir Walter de Harpecote, to Rich. Pride, burgess of Shrewsbury, of her right in the mill of Harpecote for the term of eight years. Witn., Sir Odo de Hodenet, Rob. Corbet of Morton, Roger de Preston, Rob. de Acton, Rob. Pride, John son of Ivo, Henry Partriche, Will Pochelac, Ivo son of John, Peter son of Clement, Roger son of Reiner.

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from Roger de Langleberge to Hugh de Croft in marriage dowry with Hysobella his eldest daughter of his land

in Bradefeld which he held of Ralph de Sudintone and John de Credewelle. Witn., Will. fitz Warin, Brian de Brauntone, Gwarin de Grenedene, Rob. de Ely, Walter fitz Peter, Roger fitz Adam.

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from Robert de Harperchote to Bertram Griffin of rent, &c. in Harpernchote (*sic*). Witn., Will. de Erkalewe, Rich. Corbet, Peter Corbet, Thomas del Lee, Reiner de Actone, Wido de Hadenhale, [and seven others.]

Temp. Hen. III.—Acknowledgment by Osbern Barath of the receipt from William the abbot and the canons of Haghem. of the mill of Bechesford, paying to them annually sixteen shillings and to the Hospitallers of Dunemore half a mark. Witn., John Carbunel, Pagan Charb.', Simon chaplain of Bureford, Geoffrey de Bureford, and Geoffrey his son. Green seal of arms; . . . horse-shoes (?); "Sigillum Osbert . . ."

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from William the lord of Upton (son of Hugh) to Richard son of Roger Wercock of Egebaldeham and Margery his wife of a virgate of land in that village. Witn., Sir Adam, priest and vicar of Scaubure, Reginald de Withiford, Rich. Wercoke, Rich. de la Hul and Rich. his son, [and three others of that name].

Temp. Hen. III.—Sale by Roger Sprenghose, lord of Longenolre, to William called le Budel of Longenolre, for 44*l.*, of land which Will. Twychelone and Agnes wife of Adam de Bottefeld held of him in Longenolre. Witn., John Honane, Roger Smethecote, John Champeneys, [and others].

Grant from John son of Robert de Esplege, lord of Esplege, to the infirmary of Haughmond abbey of four shillings of annual rent in Hopton. [Eyton, IX. 285. The name of Odo de Hodnet is correctly given in this original deed, and there are four more witnesses.]

Temp. Hen. III.—Exchange of land between John of Little Wythifort and Will. Cresset of Wythifort. Witn., Roger de Preston, Will. Banastre, Ivo de Sulton, Rich. de la Hul of Mukliton, Thomas of the same, Rich. Coc of Egebaldunham, William the clerk of Acton. Seal, a fleur-de-lis; "S' Joh'is d' Wyefort."

Grant from Thomas de Hopton, son of Walter, to his son Roger of half a virgate of land in Hopton. Witn., Rob. de Esple [and others].

Grant from Robert son of Adam de Prestone to Richard the Cook of Hopton of half a virgate in Hopton. Witn., Will. Tuder, Rob. de Bekeshulle, Rich. de Lakyn, Philip de Hopton, Henry de Pecchey.

Grant from Stephen de Stantone, son of Stephen de Stantone, to his uncle Robert de Stantone, of land in the vill of Rodene. Witn., Phil. de Penyntone, Rob. de Blektlee, Will. Cresset of Halnton, Reg. de Wythyford, Tho. fitz Alan of Rodene, Tho. de Wythynton. Seal of arms: two hounds courant, "S' Henrici de Helinfor'." (?)

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from John Stopel de la Biflote and Eva his wife to Robert son of Adam de Preston of a messuage and land in Hopton. Witn., Odo de Hodenet, Roger de Putlesdon, Thomas Corbet of Tassel, knts., Adam de Prestone, Rob. de Stauntone, Will. de Prestone, clerk. Two seals: one armorial, a bend between two stars.

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from Lucy widow of Elyas Botte to David son of Brun of four acres of land between Portwey and land formerly hers. Witn., Will. de la Punde, Will. Tope, [and others]. Seal: a fleur-de-lis, "S' Luce relicte El' Bote."

Temp. Hen. III.—Release from Will. Cnotte to Sir Giles de Erdintone of all his right in the wood of Hemmele within the park of the said Sir Giles. Witn., Sir Rob. de Halectone, Sir Thomas de la

Huge of Whitchurch, Adam the Vicar, Bertram Griffin, Robert Corbet, Thomas de Pixstoke.

Temp. Hen. III.—Grant from Rob. de Esplege to Haughmond abbey of two shillings of rent in Hopton. [Eyton, IX., 284, with witnesses' names.]

Temp. Hen. III.—Release from Richard Smethe son of Thomas Wedirkok, to Haughmond abbey of all his right in half a virgate, &c. in Hopton. [Ib. IX., 286, where for *Smere* read *Smethe*, and add to the witnesses' names, Robert de Hefilchawe and Philip Fremon.]

The undated deeds recited above appear to belong to the reign of Hen. III. Of that of Edw. I. there are about 42, and of Edw. II., 19. From these I select the following for notice:—

Grant from Ralph lord of Sonford to Richard son of Agnes de Aldelym of half a virgate in Aldelege. Witn., Master Rich. de Pyvele, Sir Hen. de Schauntone, [and others].

Grant from Sir Henry lord of Erdynton of a messuage and 16 acres of land for support of a chaplain in the church of Chawburi. [Eyton, VIII., 144, where to the witnesses add, Adam vicar of Chawburi, and Sir Reyner de Acton, knt.] Seal of arms.

Sale by John lord of Espelege to William Tuder of his land in Hopton, for 20*l.* "in mea necessitate." Witn., Sir Rob. Corbet of Morton, Sir Thomas Corbet of Tassalee, Sir John fitz Aer, Sir Rich. de Lefnton, Rich. Hord, Will. Hord, and others. The deed is mentioned in Eyton, IX. 285 as not being preserved.

1274.—Lease from Robert Corbet of Morton to Will. Silion "de Veteri Campo" of half a virgate in Aldele, for the term of 23 years beginning "ad Assenc. Domini proximo coronacionis reg. reg. E. fil. Henr. reg." (*sic*). Witn., Rob. de Say of Mortun, Tho. de Stuche, Hugh fitz James, Henry son of Will. de Mortun, Rich. de Aldele. Oval white seal, a fleur-de-lis; "Sigill' Will'i Silion."

1286.—Deed of sale by Roger Pride, burgess of Shrewsbury, to Sir Rob. de Corbet and Matilda his wife, for the sum of 200*l.* of the vill of Besseford. Witn., Sir Walter de Hopton, Sir John fitz Aer, Sir Will. de Tituelege, Sir John de Lee, Sir Tho. Boterel, Sir Roger de Acton, Sir Peter de Eyton, &c. Notice by Pride to his tenants of the sale, with seal of a shield bearing the letter R between three fleurs-de-lis; "Sigill' Rogeri Prude." Grant by him to the same of land in Schaweburi.

Grant from John L'Estrange ("Extraneus"), lord of Ercalwe, and Matilda his wife, to Sir Philip de Say, rector of Hodenet, of one virgate in Harpecote, which he had from Sir Will. le Botiler of Wemme. Witn., Sir Fulk L'Estrange, Sir Will. le Botiler, Sir Rich. de Harleye, Sir Rich. de Pouelesdun, knts., Tho. Corbet, Roger Corbet, Rich. Hord, Ivo de Sulton, Will. de Preston.

1288, 2 June.—Agreement between the abbot and convent of Haghemon as rectors of Sawebure and Sir Reyner, lord of Acton Reyner, by which the latter acknowledges the chapel of Acton to be dependent upon the mother church of Saweburi, and that the tithes and one virgate of land belong to that church; and in return he is to have the services of a chaplain celebrating in the chapel at Acton on the Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday in each week; to which during his life a fourth day is to be added. Seal of arms; three roundlets: "S. Reineri de Actun."

1297, 15 July.—Release from Sibilla de Schauintone, formerly the wife of master John de Espeleie, to the canons of Haghemon of 16*d.* of yearly rent paid to her as dowry from half a virgate in Hopton bought

by them from her husband. Witn., Will. Tuder, Rich. Smethen, Will. Hord, [and others].

1298, 7 Feb.—Grant from William son of Baldewyn de Montegomere to Richard Hord and Eva his wife of a messuage, bakehouse, and land in Montegomere. Witn., Nicholas Bruseboy, bailiff of Montegomere, [and six others].

1309, 14 Oct., 3 Edw. II.—Grant from John Lestraunge of Erkalewe to Sir Thomas Corbet and Robert his son of the manors of Morton Toret, Hemme Hynton, &c.

1311, 25 Sept., 5 Edw. II.—Grant from Sir Roger Corbet, knt., to Roger Pichard, clerk, of his capital messuage (excepting a part held by Tho. Gregori) with 60 acres of the waste, and his part of the moor called Rodmor, in Hatton super Hynehet.

1312 17 May, 5 Edw. II.—Grant from William Tudur to his son Thomas, and Alice daughter of Sir John Giffard of Chelintone, of all his land in Hopton, with the meadow of Elimorthyn called Quabbe medue, and another near Stoke upon Tyrne called Othelas medue, &c.

Grant from Thomas Tudur of Hopton to the abbey of Haghmon of all his land in Hopton and Espeley, as contained in the charter of master John, formerly lord of Espeley, to William Tuder his grandfather. Witn., Sir William le Boteler, lord of Wemme, Sir Rob. Corbet, Sir Laurence de Lodelowe, and Sir John his son, knights, John de Leghtone, Philip de Peynton, Walter Cresset. This deed is noticed in Eyton, IX. 287, from a copy in the Cartulary of Haughmond, and is dated by him "about the year 1350, as I suppose"; but the handwriting of this, the original, appears to be considerably earlier.

A small parcel of deeds in these reigns relates to the town of Northampton. They are as follows:—

i. 1293, 19 Apr., 21 Edw. I.—Grant from William, son of William de St. Alban, parchment-maker, of Northampton, to Philip le Rous, burgess of Northampton, of sixpence of annual rent from his house in St. Sepulchre's street. Witn., William Catour, Thomas fitz Ralph, Will. Grilli.

ii. Grant from Robert son of John de Byfeld of Northampton to Philip le Rous, burgess of Northampton, of two shillings and four pence of rent from a forge in Abyndonestrete. Witn., Robert fitz Henry, mayor, Will. Mount and John Gervays, bailiffs (and others).

iii. Grant from Alice Sefoul, widow of Michael de London, and Robert her son, to Philip le Roys and Lecia his wife, of one penny of annual rent from the house of Stephen, the corner house in Butchers' street. Witn., Robert fitz Henry, mayor, Hugh de Stanford and John de Campedene, bailiffs, (and others). Two seals: i. a bird standing, "S' Alicie Sefoule": ii. a star, "S' Rob'ti f' Micaelis."

iv. 1301, 3 Oct., 29 Edw. I.—Lease from Philip le Rous and Lecia his wife to Ralph de Dingle and Alice his wife, for their lives, of two shops in Strauschepinge. Witn., Pentecost de Kersalton, mayor, John de Staundford, and Adam de Waltham, bailiffs (and others).

v. 1302, 24 Aug., 30 Edw. I.—Grant from Ralph Monce to Philip le Rous and Lecia his wife of 27 pence of annual rent from a house formerly Rob. de Keylmers beyond the south gate of Northampton. Witn., Pentecost de Kershalton, mayor, John de Stanford and Adam de Waltham, bailiff (and others). Small seal.

vi. Lease from Margaret daughter of Philip le Rous to William de Ahscheby and Juliana his wife, for their lives, of two shops in the Drapery. Witn., W. Pentecost de Kersalton, mayor, William le Sotele and William Baron, bailiffs, &c.

vii. 1316, 4 Apr., 9 Edw. II.—Grant from John Burnel and Matilda his wife, daughter of John le Mynsmyth, to William le Rous, son of Sir Philip le Rous, knt., of a messuage in le Berewardstrete. Witn., Henry le Garlecmongere, mayor, Henry de Westone and Barthol. de Reyni, bailiffs, &c.

viii. 1316, 18 Apr., 9 Edw. II.—Grant from Firmyn le Rous to Roger Mahew of Hargrave and Margaret his wife, of his tenement in the Drapery. Witn., Henry le Garlekmongere, mayor, Henry le Deystere and Barthol. Reyner, bailiffs, &c.

ix. 1326, 28 Feb., 19 Edw. II.—Release from William son of Will. le Rous to Firmyn le Rous of all his right in the lands, &c. which the latter had by the gift of Sir Philip le Rous and Lecia his wife in Northampton, Wodeford near Hinton, and Fardingston. Witn., Walter de Tekne, mayor, Adam de Cotesbrok and John de Hochecote, bailiffs, &c. Seal, a fleur-de-lis; "Si' Will' le Rous."

A few other deeds relating to Northampton are found under later dates. One in 1355 is witnessed by John de Sibford, mayor, and John Dalyngton and Thomas Horpol, bailiffs; and in 1382 there is a good impression of the town seal. There are also occasional documents relating to lands at Linslade, Bucks.

An exemplification by the bailiffs of Shrewsbury of a confirmation of three short charters granted by Henry III. to the town is dated 5 July, 11 Edw., but the word "undime" is substituted for some words erased, and there is some confusion in the dates. The charters are dated respectively 20 March *an.* 11 (1227), 10 Aug. *an.* 40 (1256), and 22 Sept. *an.* 42 (1258 or rather *an.* 41, 1257), and the confirmation by Edward, which describes them as being granted by his grandfather ("avus"), must therefore belong to Edw. II.; but its date is given as being 2 Oct. *an.* 21, while the reign of Edw. II. ended on 20 Jan. *an.* 20. There is therefore some mistake made by the scribe. The copy is given by the bailiffs to "Nicol le fiz Richard Crouwe, burgeys de Salop" in order that he may be "conu et tesmoine pur notre comburgois de totes partz la ou il vendra," and has the town seal attached, but partly broken (the lion passant, "Sigillum . . . orum Salopesberie").

For the reign of Edw. III. there are 94 deeds. They are almost entirely deeds of title relating to various estates, but amongst them is a license to Haughmond Abbey (misspelled "Hamuon") to have the following grants in mortmain, viz., the moiety of Wynterton from Rob. de Clifford, a virgate in Hopton from John le Walshe of Shrewsbury, and four shillings of rent in Haston from Rob. de Preston; of a total value of 39*s.* 2*d.*, out of 10*l.* which they have leave to acquire; dated at Kenyngton, 20 Feb. *an.* 14, 1340. In 1334 and 1340 land is exchanged by Henry the abbot and the convent of Lilleshull, but of the abbey seal only a small fragment remains. In 1342 the singular female name of *Gilhana* occurs. Agnes, daughter of William Payne of Linslade, Bucks, is manumitted by Symon le Rous of Pelyng, "ab omni jugo et onere servitutis" in 1350; and another instance of manumission is found in 1406, when one Sibil Gregory is freed by Sir Robert Corbet of Hadley. Provision is made by Richard de la Clyve in 1356 for the saying of mass by his brother Nicholas before the altar of the Holy Cross in the church of St. Mary Shrewsbury, for the souls of their father, Thomas de la Clyve, their mother and brothers and sisters. In 1364 there is a bond in 200*l.*, dated at Buckingham, from Geoffrey de Lucy, Robert Botevilleyn, and Thomas Darderne, to Sir John Bardolph of Mapledurham, Sir John de Bracebrugge, and Sir Giles Darderne, for payment of 220 marks by half-yearly payments of 22

marks "a Oxenford en la meson de seynt John," for the debts of Sir William Botevilleyn, deceased, of which a schedule is attached. Amongst them is one of 10*l.* "a frere Thomas Burele, prior del Hospital de Irland." The seal of arms of John de Bracebrigge remains.

In the reigns of Rich. II.—Henry V. there are 39 documents. A curious example of a forgery is found in one well-written deed, ostensibly dated 12 Aug. 19 Rich. II., which professes to be a grant by Robert de Kendale, son and heir of Robert Kendale, knt. (a name not previously met with), to his daughter Alana, of the manor of Soulton, in the hundred of Bradford, and to which an armorial seal is attached (of which the bearing is not clear), "S' Robertus (*sic*) de Kendel." This has the following endorsement :—"Memorandum quod ista carta confessa fuit fore fabricata per Thomam Burdon coram justic. dom. regis de banco, prout patet termino Sancte Trinitatis anno r.r. E. iiij^{ti} post conq. Angl. nono, ro. ccccxxxiiij." In 1421 Alice Webbe of Harlascote grants to Roger Yve, clerk, Master of the new college of St. Mary Magd. near Shrewsbury [*i.e.*, the collegiate church of Battle], and to his successors as masters of the said college, four butts of arable land called Madynnes buttes in Chromgrenes in the Wodefeld of Harlascote.

Of later documents the following are all that appear to require notice :—

1524, 12 June, 16 Hen. VII.—A lease from Sir John Tuchett, lord Audelay, to Robert Richardson, gent., of the township of Keaston, for 99 years, at an annual rent of 4*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, has a good impression of the grantor's armorial seal, with the inscription, "Sigillum Johannis domini de *Andeley*," a mis-spelling of the title which is also distinctly given in the document itself, and in the grantor's signature which is subscribed.

1530, 1535.—Three leases of small holdings from Haughmond abbey are all unfortunately without the abbey seal.

1533, 8 Nov., 25 Hen. VIII.—Lease, in English, from Robert Dichar and William Peplow, wardens of the parish church of Scabery [Shawbury], and the whole parishioners of the same, to dame Elizabeth Corbet, of Paynton, widow, of "oone mese place sett and lying within Schabery callid the hall," for 61 years, at an annual rent of ciiij^{s}, paying also a heriot ["an herald"] of vi^{s} viij^{d} "at anny suche tyme as dethe schall fortune."

1534, 2 Jan., 26 Hen. VIII.—Lease from William Prowde, prior of the monastery of St. Leonard at Wombridge, and the convent, to John Aydney, of a messuage at Acton Hynehethe, for 61 years, at an annual rent of ten shillings. The priory seal represents the B. Virgin and Child under a canopy; inscription partly broken, "S . . . d' Wembrugge."

1546, 12 Feb., 37 Hen. VIII.—Grant by the Crown, under the Great Seal, to Andrew Corbet, esq., of Morton, of the manor of Redcastell, for the sum of 553*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

1557, 16 March, 3 and 4 Phil. and Mar.—Reversionary lease from Richard Walker, prebendary of Preece, to Sir Andrew Corbett, of his prebend and rectory of Preece, for 70 years at an annual rent of 20*l.*

1595, 20 May.—The original license granted by the archbishop of Canterbury to the parish of Broseley (which is described as having been always, within the memory of man, a parish of itself), at the petition of James Clifford, esq., the patron, John Vyley, rector, and the parishioners, to have the right of burial in the churchyard, bodies having been hitherto carried for burial to Much Wenlock, about three miles off.

This license is confirmed by letters patent from the Queen, dated 24 May, which are attached, and which have the Great Seal.

1599.—Certified extracts from the episcopal registers of Coventry and Lichfield of the presentations to the vicarage of Morton Corbett from 1313 to 1372. There are also two lists on paper which begin at 1300, one of which gives also the presentations to Cardeston 1304–1412, from the Hereford registers.

162$\frac{3}{4}$.—Letter "to my lovinge servant Samuel Woodd at Hopley" from "your assured lovinge master," Sir Andrew Corbet, written from London, where he was attending Parliament, at "St. Clement's Churchyard in the East, March 2." After directions about the letting of farms, the writer mentions the hearing in Parliament the Prince's and the duke of Buckingham's narrative respecting the treaty for the Spanish match. But "upon Friday morninge we had a messwage from the Lordes, delivered by Sir Randulfe Crewe, the effecte whereof was this, that the Spanish ambasador the day before had binne with the Kinge at Hampton Court, and their tould his Majestie that the duke of Buckingham in his relation at Whithall conserninge the treaty had doone his master the Kinge of Spaine that dishonour as noethinge could expiate the same but his heed; and withall he tould us the Lords had allready cleared the duke, and desired to know what our oppinion was, and whether wee would joyne with them in the clearinge of him. After halfe an howre spent, in which were many pritty passwages, and good speeches to this poynt, we returned this answer, that we did not only cleere the duke from this imputation that was laid upon him, but allsoe did give him thankes, and thought him worthy of highe commendation for his carriadge in this treaty."

1623.—Inventory and valuation of the goods and chattels of Sir Andrew Corbet, deceased, taken 14 May. On a parchment roll. (Printed in *Shropshire Notes and Queries*, 1894, III., 60–67.)

1637.—Similar inventory of the goods of Sir Vincent Corbet, deceased, taken 20 Aug. On a parchment roll.

1649–1664.—Folio account-book of the overseers of the poor for the parish of Shawbury.

1646–1650.—Order of the committee for compounding with delinquents, 3 Dec. 1646, that a fine of 2,822*l.* be set upon Sir Vincent Corbet, but that if he settle 80*l.* per an. for the maintenance of the ministry in the church of Linslade, Bucks, that the fine be reduced to 2,022*l.* The full fine was paid, but then on 3 May 1650, 800*l.* are returned by William lord Munson and George Fleetwood, and Sir V. Corbet conveys to them the impropriate tithes of Linslade to pay out of them 80*l.* annually to the minister appointed by lawful authority to officiate there and his successors for ever, as of the free gift of Parliament.

1696, 18 May.—Letter to Richard Corbet, esq., at Shawbury Park from W[illiam Lloyd] bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, "concerning the pile of building which you propose to erect, and to join it to the church," of Morton Corbet, "as a burying place for your family. You are pleased to say, and therefore I doubt not, it will be an ornament to the church. I hope you will order it so, that this addition may bring no manner of prejudice or inconvenience to the church. And on that condition I not only consent to your building but thank you for it." He gave license to the vicar of Staunton to serve the chapelry of Weston as well, worth 16*l.* a year, on account of his poverty, and because there were but 14 families in his parish, provided he heard no complaint of him; but now thinks he ought to retract it, "since I find his life and conversation does not answer his function. Onely

I hope it may be better since the reprimand that I sent him. If he has not mended upon that, I desire you would be pleesd to let me know it, and I shall forbid him Weston: more I cannot do unless I had articles against him."

1698, 1 Dec.—The same to the same, "Capt. Rich. Corbet," claiming payment of a pension and procuration due to the bishop of Lichfield from the rectory of Stanton, payment of which has been refused, but which was made by the abbot and convent of Heighmond before the Dissolution. He is bound to preserve the rights of the see, and therefore is now, after so many years of forbearance, about to put a bill into the Exchequer for compelling those to pay such dues who have hitherto unjustly detained them.

172½, 3 March, Whaddon Hall.—Letter from Browne Willis to Andrew Corbet, esq., M.P., at Westminster, giving, in reply to enquiry, notes, from his collections, respecting the members of Parliament for Shropshire.

In 1768-70 there is correspondence between Mr. Rowland Hill of Hawkstone and Mr. Andrew Corbet, upon the attempt of the former as a magistrate to put down races on Shrewsbury Heath, and the observance of a village wake, which were alleged to cause scenes of extreme disorder, profanity, and riot; an attempt resented by Mr. Corbet in the strongest terms as unwarrantable interference with his tenants. The latter retorts upon Mr. Hill (the well-known supporter of Whitefield) that if he finds any of his own tenants deserting their parish church and attending conventicles, they will be treated as breakers of decency and good order.

A MS. of Samuel Garbett's History of Wem and the neighbouring district exists in a quarto volume, which appears to be a copy later than the date of the compilation between 1750–60. The book was printed in 1818.

Among a few court-rolls is a book of the courts of the Princess Elizabeth and the duke of Somerset, for Banbury, Cropredy, and Wardington, in Oxfordshire, in the time of Edward VI. On a fly-leaf in the second of two books of court-rolls of Morton Corbett and Besford in 1588–1615, are these lines, written probably by a steward of the court:—

"To the memory of the ladye Francis Corbett, late wief of Sir Vincent Corbet.

"Thither she's gon whither she did addresse
Herself, unto the place of happynes.
Eache action duly fitted in her lief,
Zeale of a Christian, kindness of a wief,
A mother's care, an heart compassionate
To them that languish'd in distressed state.
Eache vertue that might be requir'd to grace
Her sex, her mynde, her birth, her matche, her place,
Serv'd as a step to lifte her up on high
Out of this world to blest eternitie,
Where she, good sowle, no want of ioy can fynd,
Though we poore mortalls that are left behinde
Want her, and (if our losse we value well)
Want, and are like to want, her parallel.

Andreas Woode, complorans, posuit."

A few of the earlier deeds bear endorsements by Mr. G[eorge] M[orris], who examined them in 1824.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF P. EDWARD TILLARD, ESQ., OF THE HOLME, GODMANCHESTER.

The diary here reported on was kept by William Tillard (son of Abraham Tillard, a London merchant, by Mary, sister of James Bateman, Lord Mayor of London) who was born 1675, and went out to Masulipatam in 1699 as a servant of the New East India Company. Surviving all his fellow-officers, he became President there (*see* 13th Report, Appendix III., p. 14), but returned to England in 1705.

The diary illustrates the tension between the old and new companies, and is useful for its accurate record of facts and dates.

The writer set sail from Deal Jan. 15, 1699 [N. S.] in the *London*, George Mathews captain, "being y^e^ first ship sent out in y^e^ new East India Co. service." Reaching Funchal February 4^th^, the ship "took in a few pipes of wine," and sailed for the Cape, which was sighted April 8^th^. Mauritius was sighted May 15^th^, and on the 17^th^ the ship anchored in Carpenter's Bay.

"As for y^e^ Isl^d^ Mauritius, it is pleasant & verry woody & rocky. It was first found out by the Portugeez A^o^ 1600, who lived on it some short time and deserted it. Afterwards y^e^ Dutch took possession of it 1618, who gave it the name of Mauritius, from Maurice, Pr. of Orange. They kept it for 6 y^rs^, and y^n^ left it, but y^e^ Dutch East India Co., thinking it might be of use to their ships in their way to India, they sent out 2 ships to take possession of y^e^ Island, which was 12 y^rs^ after their first desertion.

"It is lookt upon by most people as verry healthfull & wants no refreshm^ts^ for seamen after a long voyedg. It is still inhabited by y^e^ Dutch, who are in all, with slaves, ab^t^ 400 in number. Any one may be made free of y^e^ Island, but they must first serve y^e^ Comp^y^ 3 y^rs^, & y^n^ y^e^ Gov^er^ gives y^m^ a piece of ground to live upon, anywhere upon y^e^ Island, as y^e^ new made freeman shall like best, when he builds himself a house and makes a plantation of tobacco, & so lives upon what he can gitt in y^e^ woods, as Deer, Goats, &ca., till they can gitt a little money, & then they buy cocks & hens, cows and slaves, &ca., when they live a little better. The freemen are not suffered to go off of (*sic*) y^e^ Island w^n^ they please, but y^e^ unmarried are forct to stay 6 y^rs^ upon y^e^ Island after they are made free, and if they marry they are obliged to stay 15 y^rs^, the freemens children are free without serving y^e^ Comp^y^ 3 years. They deal with all nations in y^e^ same manner, not favouring their own countrymen more y^n^ other people, but at present they are all Dutchmen, except^g^ one, who is an Englishman, and lives by black river.

"The present Gov^ers^ name is P. Diodati, who has 5^d^ per mo. salary. The Dep. Gov^ers^ name is Van Momberen, who has 4^d^ per mo. The Gov^er^ sent his Dep. to us for to suply us w^th^ what we wanted. 'Tis beleeved y^t^ y^e^ Governr designs to go of y^e^ Isl^d^ by y^e^ first ship, w^ch^ was daily expected, w^n^ the Dep. Van Momberen is to succeed him.

"The Isl^d^ is well stored with deer, goats & cows, as also cocks and hens. We gave 3 Doll. for a deer, ½ a Doll. a goat, and 8 Doll. for a

cow, wch is ye settled price, they being sold by ye Govr, and not by ye freemen, who cannot sell any of these 3 things. Cocks and hens are sold by ye freemen, 4 for a Doll.; there is also wild hogs, but yt alwaies belongs to ye huntsman, who is commonly one of their slaves, he disposes of it as he pleases. They have potatoes enough, wch suply ye place of bread, for there is no corn can grow upon ye Isld by reason of ye multitude of rats, wch eat it up before 'tis half grown to perfection; but at ye Factory (wch lyes on ye S.E. side of ye Isld) they eat bread, made of corn brought there by ye ships from ye Cape. There is also upon ye Isld a great many oranges, limes, and lemons, wch ye freemen sold us 100 a Doll., but not so good as those ye Govr sent ye Capn; and ye Dep. told us that at ye Factory they have the best of every thing upon ye Isld, as also more plenty, and many things grow there wch they have not in any other part of ye Isld, especially all sorts of sallat & other green trade, for we could gitt nothing green from ye freemen but pursely & another sweet cented herb, with wch we made a sallatt, adding thereto some shallat. There is abundance of fish about ye Island, for one man, wth an angle, in an hour's time shall catch as much fish as 6 men can eat.

"There is verry good fresh water about half-a-mile up ye river from Carpenters bay w[h]ere we lay with our ship, so yt we made 3 turns with fresh water every day, & yt with ease. There is a tomb built at ye entrance of ye river, a little way from ye shore, where lyes one Welden, who died on this Isld abt 2 yrs since, returning home in yc Benja from Bombay. Here are also sharks and manatees about this Isld but we took no notice of either, to strike them. Here is also a great many sea turtle, but we were too soon in ye year to find any of them. Here is abundance of ebony wood, wch we saw going up to ye freemens houses, wch lay 3 mile frm Carpenters bay. As for birds, we did not see many, ye most plentifull are hawks and turtle-doves wch will suffer you to come verry nigh them before they fly away, the grey hawk is verry good food. Here is also a very large batt, at least a yard distance frm ye tip of one wing to ye tip of ye other, there (*sic*) body as large [as] a midle sized monkey, & there (*sic*) head just like ym, the inhabitants eat ym, & say they are very good food, I see one of them cut open on the breast, & 'twas nothing butt fatt. They hang upon ye trees, so long till one may take hold of him, without offering to fly away. The cow hath also a great bunch of fatt stick'd up between her two shoulders.

"Horses they have, but are all wild, & wn ye inhabitants bring ym in to tame them, they soon dye, but they do not make many tryals, because they have no place upon ye Isld to ride about, it being nothing but woods & rocks. There is no way to take ye deer alive, unless there is a boat sent out to watch wn ye deer betakes him to ye water, for they will alwaies gitt to ye water if they can, to save ymselves frm ye dogs, wn they often save their lives, unless a shark meets wth ym wn they are devoured, but otherwise they escape, they havg no sort of boat on this Isld to go after ye Deer, onely one wch ye Govr has for his use. The inhabitants take dollars, ye light ones are as good to ym as ye heavier. An English crown goes but for a dollar, but an English shillg they esteem as a shillg, & agree wth ym as cheap as you can. There is abundance of land turtle on Quine Island."

Weighing anchor on May 28 the ship sailed for the Coromandel coast. "No such Isld as St. Appolonio" could be seen after leaving Mauritius, and it was concluded that "ye Isld Maskareen is laid down twice in ye maps." The shoals of Cardoin de Graics were sighted on June 1, and the ship anchored before Porto Novo, July 6. Messrs [Robert],

Hedges,* Graham, Watts, and Lee went ashore with the writer and visited the Dutch factory "but saw no body belongs to ye English excepts an officer wch was come there frm Fort St. David. Having visited the Governor and made him a present, they returned aboard, and sailed the same night for Fort St. George, where they anchored on the morning of the 8th. The same party went ashore and were "civilly receiv'd by Govr [Thomas] Pitts† (*sic*). The writer "went to see Mr. Hatsell‡, late Govr of St. David, therefore am unacquainted with the discourse [that] past betwixt our gentlemen and them of the Fort. We were told to go aboard by ye Govr after dinner, as I was inform'd, wch we complyed with after a little discourse.

"Sunday ye 9th we sett sail from Fort St. George & came to an anchor before Metchlepatan [Masulipatam] on Wensday ye 12th July betwn 11 & 12 in ye morns for wch God be praised, havs brought us to our desir'd port in health. In ye afternoon, Mr. Hedges, Mr. Graham & myself went on shore & hired a house . . . . . We went to visit ye More [Moor] & Gentue Govrs. They promist us we should land our goods, but we must pay custom. We went to ye Gentu Govr again (ye More Govr answers us neither good nor bad as to customs, for we promist to come & see him again & bring a present wth us) ye Gentu Govr was a little more compiyant ye next time, he promis us we should lett ym be chopt (*sic*) & afterwards they would come to our house & look upon one or two beailes [bales], & if they agreed wth what we said, to suffer all ye rest to be unchopt (*sic*). We unloaded all ye goods out of ye *London*, according to those conditions.

"Tuesday night ye 1st of Augt, came to an anchor ship *De Grave*, Capn Wm Young, & next day Mr. Hedges, & Mr. Graham went aboard her.

On the evening of the 3rd "Consull Pitt & Mr. Knightly came on shore, ye More Govr sends ye Catwall to ye water side to welcome him ashore. Ye Dutch chief sent his Dubash ye same evening to ye house to welcome him ashore, as also did Mr. Lovell ye old Compa servt.

"Ye 4th Hagee Mamud Seid sent his servt with a prest, as also to welcome ye Consull on shore.

Ye 8th ye King & flag was hoisted & his commisn to ye Consull [John Pitt§] read in publick to all ye English on shore. Mr. Lovell & ye rest belonging to ye old Factory was sent ye day before to come & hear ye commissn read, but they came not. 'Tis true they sent a letter to ye consull by ye Dubash ye night before, but he refused to receive it, then they sent it by an English young man, but ye Consull thought fitt not to receive it from him neither, & told him yt he would hear no excuse, but did expect they should comply with his orders. In ye afternoon ye Consull, Mr. Hedges, Mr. Graham, Mr. Knightly, Mr. Lee a passenger, Padre Pitt, & ye two Capns went to dinner with Hagee Mamud Seid. Sunday ye 6th Aug. ye Moor Govr came to make us a visitt as did also ye Dutch Chief Mr Weederlandt.

"Friday, ye 11th Aug. Mr. Graham & Mr. Wats went aboard ye *London* carrys ye ship's dispatches with them. Accordingly ye ship sailed away about noon for Bengall.

Friday ye 18th Aug. in ye evening Capn Young had his sayls orders when he went aboard, and accordingly set saile for Bengall, but it so fell out yt he left his Yaul wth 5 of his men behind him. There was

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* Nephew to Sir William Hedges. *See* "Diary of William Hedges" Ed. Yule, II. pp. cxcvii–cxcix.

† *See* 13th Report, App. III., p, 2.

‡ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

§ *See* letter from Robert Pitt, *Ibid.*, p. 3.

likewaise 2 of his men (w^{ch} he s^{d} were Dutch) run away & not to be found.

"Y^{e} 19th agreed for & ye 22nd went into ano^{r} house. . . the Consull y^{e} Padre & ye secretary stay^{g} in y^{e} former. This house is let us for 15^{pag} per mo. to stay 6 mo^{s} certain y^{e} landl^{d} to repair y^{e} house. Y^{e} former house is 6 pag. per mo. & 2 mo^{s} certain.

Y^{e} 27th we had news of Vincatadre his arrivall here fr^{m} Maderas. Y^{e} consull ordered him to stop 3 or 4 miles out of town, w^{ch} was done, & Mr. Browne . . . . . was sent to fetch him from thence to our Factory.

Y^{e} 28th we had a consultation, where it was agreed he should be entertained & made our chief Dubash and allowed 150 Pag. per An. to be paid monthly, according to y^{e} custom at Fort St. George; he is also to have a gratuity for his expences upon y^{e} road. He had then presented him 3 y^{ds} crims^{n} cloth, also some glass ware.

This day also we writt to S^{r} Edw^{d} Littleton & y^{e} Councill at Bengall per ship Benj^{a}, Cap^{n} Brown, who arrived here Saterday [26th] evening before, & sett saile again this day. We writt also to afores^{d} Gentle^{n} by y^{e} *London* & by y^{e} *Degrave*, w^{ch} [I] forgott to mention in their proper places—likewise y^{t} y^{e} 9th Aug. at night there was a messenger sent away to y^{e} Nabab wth a letter from y^{e} consull. Y^{e} contents was to desire liberty to trade in his country wth out molestation, & to land & load goods without trouble fr^{m} y^{e} custom officers & y^{e} 21st Aug. y^{e} Madepallam* merch^{t} return'd home, having been here 4 or 5 days. We told (*sic*) home the same even^{g} what goods we wanted & he told us how many pieces of each sort he could help us too, to send away by y^{e} first ships, also y^{t} he would send us samples & prices of y^{e} goods.

"Y^{e} 30th Aug. 2 Peons was sent away to Visagatapam, one with the King's commiss^{n} to y^{t} consull directed to y^{e} chief of y^{e} old Comp^{a} in y^{e} place, y^{e} other to go fr^{m} thence direct to y^{e} Nabab's court with a letter writt by y^{e} consull to our Vakeel there to order to send one to give an acc^{t} of his arrivall & reception in y^{t} place.

Ye 5th Sept we beld. a consultation, w^{n} it was concluded upon to send 2 Peons to Armagan (2 days journey on this side Fort St. George) wth a 1000 Pag, w^{ch} was accordingly done y^{e} next day, & 2 Peons wth letters to y^{e} Gov^{er} of s^{d} place & 2 merch^{ts} of d^{to} place, to order y^{m} to provide goods, & send us patterns & y^{e} prices for our governm^{t}. They had withem [with them] 4 y^{ds} crims^{n} cloth for y^{e} King's rent gatherer there, as also a sword blade for d^{to}, likewise 3 y^{ds} crims^{n} & a sword blade for y^{e} gov^{er} Armagan, & to y^{e} merch^{ts} 2 y^{ds} crimson to each man, also 2 y^{ds} green to Narso Redwood merch.

. . . . . .

7th d^{to} betw^{n} 2 & 3 in y^{e} morn^{g} Mr. Mich^{l} Wats, one of our councill, dyed, after hav^{g} layn sick of a flux ab^{t} 3 weeks. He was carryed to y^{e} English bury^{g} place betw^{n} 2 & 3 in y^{e} afternoon y^{e} same day.

[Saterday ye ivth 7ber, there was 2 Peuns sent to Suratt wth letters]†

Monday 12th d^{to} betw^{n} 2 & 3 in y^{e} afternoon, Mr. Val. Knightly dyed, he lying sick of a feavor about a week. He was buryed y^{e} next morning in y^{e} English burying place & layn by Mr. Wats aforesaid.

"20 d^{to} arriv'd here Comadore Warren in ye *Harwich* wth 3 other men of war, with his Excellency S^{r} W^{m} Norris, Ambas^{r} from y^{e} King of Engl^{d} to y^{e} great Mogul. In y^{e} evening y^{e} consull Mr. Graham went aboard to wait upon his Excell^{cy} w^{n} they were invited to dinner

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* Madapallam the weaving town, where the goods were made.

† Entered on a later fo.

ye Friday after, & ye time being come they went accordingly. Next day being Saterday I went aboard to wait upon his Excellency.

[Ye 24th 7ber one Penn was sent with letters to Fort St. George, among wch were my letters for England enclos'd to Wm. Hatsell, Esq.*

Ye 25th My Lord came ashore abto 10 in ye morng, his retinue being ashore before to receive him. He made a publick entry, he was met by ye Consull & ye rest of ye Factory upon ye bridge, also by Mr Lovell & ye other gentlemen of ye old Compa Factory, ye Moor Govr mett his Excelcy in ye Banksel wth his retinue, & from thence his Lordship went to his lodgings, ye Nawab's house, wth his retinue, as follows: first, went betwn 40 & 50 Peons, then followed ye horeboys & a compa [of] soldiers, yn ye trumpets, after yt my Lords pages, yn Mr. Browne in place of my Lords steward, his own being sick, & ye rest of my Lords assistants, as ye under-secretary, ye treasurer, ye 3 commisrs for Prizes; yn went Comodore Warren & 2 other comdrs of each side, [that is] to say, Capn Littleton on his right & Capn White on his left side, ye other Capn being not well & so not ashore, then came his Excellcy my Lord Ambasr Wm Norris, after him ye Consull Jno. Pitt, Esq., [the] secretary of ye Embassy, Mr. Norris, my Lords bror & then our Secd Mr Jno. Graham & Mr. Thos. Lovell, chief of ye old Compa Servts in this place after yn myself with —— Pitt ye parson of our Factory, after us Mr. Jno. Holden our Secretary & Mr. Nodham ye old Compa Secd, also ye 3rd of sd Factory, yn went Mr. Hale & ye writers every-one in their sevll stations, & after yn some others from aboard ye ships *Harwich*, Capn Warren Comadre, *Angelsea*, Capn —— Littleton, *Hastings*, Capn Richd White, & *Lizard*, Capn —— Romsey.

" Ye 23rd 7ber ye consull Jno. Pitt, Esq. & Mr. Jno. Graham went frm hence to Madapolm to treat with the merchants of that place.

" Ye 30th ye 4 men [of] warr sail'd out of this road & gott out of sight, & that morng att 2 o'clock Mr. Blacket, my Lord's steward, dyed of a flux & was buryed in ye afternoon.

1st 8ber at 12 o'clock at night dyed Mr. Cok, Phician to ye Embassy. He was buryed Monday in ye afternoon.

Ye 3 8ber arriv'd at Govdre one servant frm ye Mogull to raise a tax upon ye Gentues, bringg wth him a piece of beef (yt whoso'er eat of ye beef should be freed frm ye tax; but ye Governor ye other officer of this place would not suffer him to raise it till he had an order frm ye Nawab, ye Vice Roy of Golconda.

Ye 7th a messenger arriv'd here frm ye Nawab, who brought news of ye Mogull's sendg a coat to ye sd Nawab, upon wch there was great rejoycing in this place, it being a mark of favour shown to ye Navab by ye great Mogull. We sent ½ maund of powder towds their rejoycing, but ye Dutch sent 2 maund.

Ye 13th ye consull & Mr. Graham return'd from Madapollam. Next day I see ye Govr of Madapm's cowl to us, also an agreement wch they made wth ye merchts there for goods.

Ye 24th I see a letter from ye Govr of Armagen. It gave us incoureagement to trade in ye country. At ye same time I read a translation of ye Vacca Novis's letter to Court concerng my Lord Ambasdr. It was approved on by us.

[Ye 23rd 3 Peons were sent to Suratt wth my Ld Ambas letters. Ye 29th 2 Peons was sent to Bengall wth ye Ld Ambassdrs letters, as also letters from us†.]

Ye 1st Nov. ye contract was made betwn us Jno Pitt, Esq., Jno Graham, & Wm Tillard, & ye merchts of Metchlepm to bring in goods of 20458¾ Pag. by ye last of December next.

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* Entered in a later fo.

† Entered on the following fo.

" Ye 28th 9ber Mr. Luke Bright, surgeon's mate, dyed of a feavor, at 8 in ye morng.

" Ye 3rd Dec. betwn 12 & 1 at night dyed Mr. Philip Pitt ye parson of our factory of a feavor, both supposed to have proceeded first from a great cold they had gotten.

Ye —— ditto, ye new Navab made his publick entry through this citty, Metchlepatam. My Lord Ambassr stood in ye gallery to see him come by, & my Lord ordered 21 great guns to be fired as soon as ye Navab was seated in ye Banksoll; ye Navab took no notice of my Lord coming by, neither did my Lord take any notice of him, onely ordered his musick to be sounded all ye while they were passing by.

1700.

'ye 1st of Jan. we recd a letter frm Mr. Ben. Newse and Mr. Brook at Suratt, mentionin that Sr [Nic.] Wait came out in ye Mountague a mo before them, but was not yet arrived.

'ye 4th Jan. at 2 in ye mornyg dyed Mr. Rutter, a writer, of ye dropsy, having layn sick a great while.

ye 15th ditto ye President recd letters frm Fort St. George being ye news of Comadore Warren's death upon ye coast of Malabar' (and further letters on the 17th menticning the death of Mr. Guy and others in Bengal and the serious illness of Sir E. Littleton). On the 17th " Vincatadre our chief Dubash was sent to ye Navab for to treat about gitting a Pherwanne [Firman] for ye freedom of trade etc., but when come thither he was detayned by ye justice of this place, upon ye account of ye Lascars, they complaing yt ye Compa owed ym monny. So they forced Vincatadre to stay, or find somebody else to appear as an atterney in ye Compa behalf. But this was such a disgrace to ye English nation, yt my Lord Ambassr & ye President was verry angry at it, & ordered ye gentlemen & all ye servts to gitt themselves ready to go up to ye Navab & demand Vincatadre. Upon wch order all ye armes were gott ready this night before they went to sleep.

" Ye 18th every one gott himself ready in order to go, viz: ye Presidt & Mr. Graham & all ye rest of ye factory and Mr. Harlwyn & Mr. Mills wth all his Lordship's servants, makeg together abt 40 men, all clothed in red, & well armed, (myself & 2 of ye writers were left at home to keep ye factory). But, as Providence ordered it, ye President & Mr. Graham went first to ye Ambassr for further orders and then 'twas concluded upon yt they would first send an Englishman to ye Navab's, to lett him know yt his Ldship resented it verry highly and withall to tell him yt was contrary to his former promises, & to lett him know yt if he did not reliese Vincratradre immediately he would write up to court & lett them know what an affront they had putt upon ye King of England's Ambassr. For order thereto there was a black man sent to lett ye Navab know yt his Ldship designed to send a message to him to enquire when he would be at leisure, and he returned answer yt his Ldship might send when he pleased, but no sooner was Mr. Mills, ye person agreed upon to send, gone out of ye house but Vincatadre came in, they having reliest him."

Mr. Mills however brought back an apology from the Nawab who withall ordered ye principall Lascar to be severely drubed with a chaabuck, or a splitt bamboe, for making this disturbance. It seems they heard what preparations ye English were making wch I believe was ye reason why they lett Vincatadre depart so soon, for we had news afterwards that ye Navab had ordered spyes to observe what we were adoing & ordered severall partyes of horse out, to give him notice when we were

acoming. The letters ye Presidt recd frm Fort St. George yesterday brought news likewise from Achin, that ye people there had chosen an Arabian King & married him to their Queen, & had ordered that ye English there should pay custom, or else depart from thence in eight days; & likewise that there was a Pyrate who had blundered (*sic*) a Danish ship before Achin, & was gone afterwards (as is supposed) to cruise before ye straits of Malacca.

"Ye 23rd in ye morng arrived here ye Bengal, Capn Browne from Bengall bound for Madras & thence to England.

"Ye 5th Feb. arrived ye *De Grave* Capn Young from Bengall (she left March 15).

"Ye 3rd Aprill Mr Hale, one of ye Compa factors was cleared from ye Compa service, his Excelly desiring him to go up with him to court to look after ye Prests in ye room of Mr. Thorgood, who was sent to England on ship *De Grave*, he being non compus (*sic*) mentis.

"Ye 28th March we contracted with Metchln merchants for severall goods to ye amount of 55736¼ Pag., half to be brought in ye last of Aug. next, & ye remdr before ye last of December," (further similar contract on April 2, for 47,301¼ Pag.).

"Ye 9th April there was a consultatn, present his Excellncy my Lord Ambassd, ye Consull Jno Pitt, Mr. Jno Norris, Mr. Jno Graham, myself, & Mr. Thos Harlewyn, where it was agreed upon & found proper for ye Compa interest yt my Lord Ambassr should begin his journey to court 1st May next following, and that he should not stay for any his equipage, but if not ready to be sent after, & yt ye Consull & his councill should consider how much ye charges of ye Embassy will come to & provide monny for sd charges, as also how many Peons etc. for State attendency will be necessary to go wth my Lord likewise how much monny (or as nigh as can be guessed) has been laid out by ye consull or councill for acct of ye Embassy, also yt ye sd consull and councill should bring in an acct of what priviledges ye English ever enjoyed on this coast, & what more priviledges they shall think fitt to be enjoy'd in order for a free liberty of tradg, also yt they should consider of an interpreter, being disappointed of those gentlemen who were writt to at Fort St. George. An answere to sd particers was requir'd by his Excellcy to be brought on Saterday next. . . . . (Note of contract same day for 5,000 additional coarse 'sallampores.')

"Ye 20th betwn 12 & 1 at night, Mr. Syls Phillips dyed in a convulsn fitt after haveg layn some time sick & very weak. Next day his Excellcy & ye consull recd letters from Surratt wch brought news of Sr Nic. Wait's safe arrivall there & of his kind reception frm ye Govr of ye place.

"Ye 23rd the Presidt & his councill recd frm his Excellcy in councill (by hands of Mr Harlewyn) a paper whereon he desired to know ye reason why everything was not ready for his dispatch to court in order to procure Phirmannds [firmans].

"The next day I careyed an answer to ye above paper, to his Excellcy, his brother Mr. Secy Norris being present. This answer was signed by ye President & myself. Mr. Graham was at Madapelm.

"Ye 3rd May we had a consultatn, present his Excellcy, ye consull Jno Pitt Esq., Tho. Norris Esq., and Mr. Jno Graham, Mr. Wm Tillard [the writer], Mr. Tho. Harlewyn, when there was a letter read frm Emaum Koulee, wch brought us news of his being upon ye road, upon wch it was agreed yt there was no reasn to send an Englishman to Golconda, but only 2 or 3 black peons (of wch Emaum Koulee's servt wch brought ye letter to be one), & so soon as they came to Golconda (if Emaum Koulee was not there) they were ordered to gett

300 Koolyes & 100 palenk^{n} boys & to bring y^{m} immediately for this place, but if Emaum Koolee was there, they were to apply themselves to him.

"Y^{e} 12^{r} y^{e} *London* sailed out of this road on her voyage to Malacca & fr^{m} thence to Bengall. S^{d} ship arrived here from Bengall y^{e} 3rd inst . . . . . .

"Y^{e} 27th May Emaum Koulee's son came to town with y^{e} originall Hassal Hukum etc. for convoy^{g} his Excell^{cy} to court. Y^{e} 30th, his Excell^{cy} called a councill to resolve upon y^{e} sum of mony, necessary to be carryed wth him [to] y^{e} camp. The Consuil said it would be impossible to procure more than 34,000 Rup. & y^{t} he would give his Excell^{cy} a bill of credit to Golconda to take up there what other sums his Excell^{cy} shall have occas^{n} for . . . . . .

"Y^{e} 29th July died Mr. Arn^{ld} Browne stew^{d} of a feavor, ab^{t} a week sick. Primo Aug^{t} M^{r} George Peek was rec^{d} into y^{e} Comp^{a} service as writer. 15th ditto his Excell^{cy} . . . . went aboard y^{e} ship *Somers*, Cap^{n} John Douglas Com^{dr}, for Surratt. He went thro' y^{e} town in great splendour, viz.: first, from y^{e} great house, called King of Golconda's to y^{e} consull's. . . . . He went under y^{e} canopy of ½ a dozen Rundells, on black man to each, y^{e} consull following him wth 2 over his head, then his Excell$^{cy's}$ brother J^{no} Norris Esq., wth 2 over his head, after him y^{e} councill w^{ch} were onely Mr. J^{no} Graham & myself, y^{e} rest being dead. After y^{m} follow'd y^{e} factors & writers, & all y^{e} English Nation then in town, except^{ng} y^{e} old Comp^{a} servt^{s}, w^{ch} never would take any notice of y^{e} Ambass^{r}. Before his Excell^{cy} went his gentlemen, Mr. Mills & Mr. Hales, wth Mr. Harlewyn, Paymaster to y^{e} Embassy, who carried y^{e} sword of Justice before his Excell^{cy}, and before y^{m} went all my Lords Livery servt^{s}, there going onely 4 by his side; and before y^{m} went a comp^{a} of soldiers w^{ch} they took out of y^{e} ship, the barge crue (*sic*) going first of all with velvett caps & coull^{d} wastcoats, well armed. My Lord^{r} had y^{e} Union and King's flagg likewise before him, w^{ch} he ordered to be burnt so soon as he came into y^{e} Consull's house—I suppose because they were old and torn.

The same day, M^{r} Graham, y^{e} Sec^{d} was marryed to M^{rs} Charlton, sister to y^{e} Consull's lady. My Lord Ambass^{d} gave her, & so soon as y^{e} ceremony was over, & that we had dined, the Ambass^{r} went down to y^{e} water side (in order to embark) with the same State as before, y^{e} flags excepted, w^{ch} were burnt as before mentioned, y^{e} guns firing after he was in y^{e} barge, till he gott to y^{e} island within side y^{e} barr.

"Y^{e} 26th Aug., y^{e} ship *Somers* departed this road with my Lord Ambass^{r} on board in order to go for Surratt; the reason why his Excell^{y} took this method to go for y^{e} camp was occasioned by y^{e} impudence of y^{e} govern^{rs} in & about this town of Metchlep^{n}, who refused giv^{g} Dustick & necessary assistance for carry^{g} his pres^{ts} & retinue over land; and, y^{e} rains coming on, thought he might be sooner to y^{e} Mogull by way of Surratt.

Y^{e} 10th Sept., Mr. Sam^{l} Woolston was rec^{d} into y^{e} Co. service, in y^{e} quality of Merchant. He signed at y^{e} same time an indenture & bond to be true & faithfull to y^{e} English East India Co. trading to y^{e} East Indies.

Y^{e} 19th Sept. Capt. Praver arrived in y^{e} road, & sailed for Fort St. George y^{e} 25th.

Y^{e} 28th June 1700 y^{e} *Tankerville* Capt. Newman arriv'd in this road & y^{e} *Somers* Capt. J^{no} Douglas y^{e} 5th July following, both from England, w^{ch} was omitted. . . . .

Y^{e} 9th Oct. Mr. J^{no} Holden, Secr^{ty} departed this life, hav^{g} lain sick a great while wth a humour in his side.

1701.

Jan. 2nd arrived in this road ye *King William* Capt. Braddeel from Bengall & Visagapatam & sailed ye 15th for Fort St. George & from thence to England. . . . . .

Feb. ye 28th, arrived here ye *Tankerville* . . . . from Bengall, who went afterwards for Madapm Road, from wch place she was despatcht for England ye 16th March followg.

May ye 15th. Mr. Jno Graham, our Secd dyed of a fever in his head att Madapm, occassioned first per ye gout.

June ye 19th, ye *Stretham*, Capm Rogr Meyers arrived here from England, & ye 14th dto, Capt. Douglas Comdr of ye *Somers* was despatched to Bengall. He [had] arrived in this road from Surratt ye 22nd May before.

June 27th ye *De Grave* Captn Wm Young arrived in Madapm Road. She had but 3mo 20days passage from England.

July ye 6th we had news by a letter frm ye Captn & Mr. Niccols of ye sad misfortune of ye ships pinnis wch was oversett comg over ye barr of sd place. In her was Mr. Du Paz & his younger son, & his servt, also Mr. Bernadiston, formerly ye President's prentice, but this voyage designed for Bengall, Mr. Danel Studd, factor for this place, Mr. Mathw Pevison, writer, belonging to this place, who went off ye day before, who were all drowned, also all ye boats crew, except ye two who saved their lives by swimg on board again.

July 9th, sd ship *De Grave* arrived in this road, & was dispatcht to Bengall ye 31st.

July 18th. Mr. Samll Du Paz used some scurrelous words to ye Consull, & held his hand upon his sword as if he were going to draw itt, as I was afterwds told by ye Consull himself, for I was not present wn ye words was spoken.

Ye 22nd. Mr. Samll Du Paz & Isaac Abendana signed a £2000 bond to oblidge themselves to all such regulatns as ye Compa has or shall send out conscerning private merchts wch bond was afterwds cancelled by Mr. Isaac Abendana abovesd by ye sd Jno Pitt & Isaac Abendana, but 'twas without my consent as per ye sevrll papers wch past betwn ye sd Jno Pitt & myself 'twill appear.

Octob. 1st ye *Dutchess* Capn Raymond Comdr arrived here frm Visagapn. Ye 22nd sd ship was dispatchd for Fort St. George & upon her went Mr. Samll Du Paz, who had sevll days before this thrown himself under ye protection of ye old Compa going into ye factory.

Octob. ye 27th we had news frm Mr. Orldo Niccols of ye *Katherin* Capn Wm Holman's arrivall in Masapm Road; ye same night we sent orders for ye Capn to come into this Road, but ye wind blowing fresh he gott not hether till ye 3rd Novbr following in ye afternoon. He came frm England ye 16th May before.

Mr. Orldo Niccols was recd into ye Compa service as factor for one year ye 1st Oct. last, & Mr. Thos. Prichward was recd as a writer ye same day for 5 yrs, but did not sign ye indentures till Novbr . . . . . .

1702.

The *Stretham* frigate, Captain Roger Meyers, reached Masulipatam from Bengal the 5th Jan. and left for England the 24th Feb. The *Rising Sun*, Capt. Arthur Holford arrived there from Canton the 14th Jan., and left April 29th.

"Ye 2nd March in ye evening we recd letter from his Excellcy Sr Wm Norris Ambassr dated ye 8th Feb., that he had recd his dispatch from ye great Mogull, wth a letter & present to ye King of England, & a present to himself; that he was now going to Surratt; and that Gousde Cawn ye Mogull's Generall had promised to send ye Phirmaunds [firmans] after him; and upon ye delivery of sd Phirmaunds to ye Ambassr, he is to pay sd Generall 250,000 Rups. We had news of his Excellencys going for Surratt.

"Ye 31st March, Mr. Saml Woolston was discared ye Compa service for speaking scandalous & shamefull words of ye Presidts Lady & her sister. Graham, for wch words—and yt there might be a good understandg & union betwn ye Presidt and myself—I consented to his being putt out of ye sd service. Otherwaise ye Compa business would be impeeded by our differences."

News received on April 7 of arrival of the *Chamber* frigate, Capt. South, bound for China. Robert Glassel was received as a factor the same day.

On June 1, the *Charlton*, Capt. Goslin, sailed for China with Mr. Beavoir supercargo.

"23rd June recd lettrs from ye Presidt & ye Councill of Surratt . . . . giving an acct of ye Ambassdrs sailing from Surratt to Bombay in ye *Scipio*, and of ye death of Mr. Jos. Hale on board ye Bengll Merchr.

"July 27th ye *Mary* Gally, Capt. Chamberlain frm Banjar arrived in this road, upon her Mr. Landen consull and President at sd place, bound for Bengall." (She left Aug. 4th).

"Ye 2nd Aug. about 6 p.m. came into the river ye ship *Norris's* pinnace wth 37 persons, bringing ye most dismall news of ye *Norris's* being blown up a little to ye southward of Deue [Divi] point about 4 o'clock ye same afternoon, occasioned by ye carelessness of a person drawg of brandy in ye Lazaretto about 7 in ye morning. The ship burned frm that time till 4 in ye afternoon when she was seen to blow up . . . . . by those which saved themselves in ye pinnace . . . . . Mr. Wm Anderson, Minister for the Bay, Thos. Talmash, Jno. Story, writers for dto, Edwd Belytha, Purser, etc., etc. There was immediately ordered 2 country boats to search after ye wreck. . . . . ."

The *Dolphin*, belonging to the old company, sailed for Bengal on the 7th, having arrived from Fort St. George 26th July preceding . . . . .

"Ye 10th Aug. ye *Hugliana* ketch sailed for Bengall, Jne Fountain master . . . . . We writt ye Presidt & Councill at Hugely [Hooghly] per the Ketch.

"Ye 4th Aug. we entertained Miles Crafts, Trumpr in ye Compa service at 5 Pg per Mo.

"Ye 18th, Mr. Thos. Nevile was turned out of his imploymt as steward & paymaster for sliteing [slighting] ye President's orders, he being ordered ye day before . . . . . not to go within ye house of Mrs Goslin, wife to Capn Goslin, where he went within an hour afterwards openly, in defiance to ye sd order. The reason of ye Presidts forbidg him ye sd house was his going thether 2 or 3 times before & once in perticular stayed within the house till between 9 or 10 at night, the permittance of wch would create reflections on ye Presidt etc., she being noted for a woman who allowed too much freedom to ye men . . . . . .

"Ye 2nd Septbr an order was delivered to Robert Glassell and Matw Waller how to act in quest of ye wreck & to sail immediately. . . . . Ye 4th they sett saile, in order to ye attaining Dewe point being not able to sett saile before by reason of contrary winds. . . . . .

"Ye 6th ye Presidt recd a Lettr frm ye Directors concerning some orders yt is to be given by him to Comdrs of ships homeward bound wch

letter no one was to see or know ye contents thereof beside ye President himself; and ye President & Councill were enjoined per ye Directors in their generall to them to order every Commander homeward bound to follow ye orders given them by the President."

On the 8th letters were received from Robert Glassell as to his progress, and replied on the 9th "ye country people had seen severall dead bodies come on shore." . . . .

"Ye 14th Sept. in ye eveng betwn 4 & 5 our Peons were stopd by those of ye old Compy going by their factory, it being ye Peons feast, att wch time they pretended it was customary to stop all other Peons from coming by their factory. But Mr. Frewen, ye chief of their factory, his pretence for so doing was yt one of our Peons had struck one of theirs, & made him bleed, which Peon he would have ye Presidt punish before he would suffer our Peons to pass. This was ye message sent from Mr. Frewen to ye consull, who sent for answer that he wondred Mr. Frewen would trouble him with such things wn it was the peon's feast, & yt he might happen to receive his bloody nose in ye scuffle betwn themselves, and sent to him not to hinder our Peons frm passing. But he, not regarding ye consull's answer, but still kept our Peons from passing, and, to hinder them, placed his souldiers cross ye street for which reason ye consull sent to ye Doerga, who, after he had sent 2 or 3 messages to Mr. Frewen, came himself & laid a Deray upon his Peons not to stir out of their places; afterwards went to our Peons, who waited for his coming out some distance from ye old factory, whom he brought by said factory to ye consull's house. The fusdar then sent a message to Mr. Frewen, to lett him know that if he did not lett our Peons pass by immediately, he would send and cut off his Peons' heads and Englishmens too, for sd fustar did not yet know yt they were past by already. Afterwards, about 9 o'clock, ye consull recd a message frm ye fusdar to acquaint that he had sent him 10 horsemen & 100 Peons wch were ready att his command, if he had occasion for them . . . . . .

"The Peon yt Mr. Frewen would have had satisffaction from struck ye other Peon in ye scuffle that hapened when their Peons offered to thrust holes thro' our Compy flag, as they went thro' ye Bazaar."

On Tuesday night, 15th, news was received from Madapollam of the death of Orlando Nichols "after having been sick some time of a flux and feavor."

"Thursday ye 17th Sept. at 3 in y e afternoon [I] arrived at Madapollam." Arrival there of small ships, from Masulipatam, on 20th and 21st, "after having sought for ye Norris wreck in vain."

"Ye 30th we solemnised ye death of King Wm, firing 14 guns. Afterwards we rejoiced at ye proclamatn of Queen Ann, firing 15 guns.

"Ye 7th Oct. in ye afternoon arrived ye consull at Madapm. Ye 8th in ye morng arrived here a Suratt Pattamar wth a letter dated ye 3rd Sept. from ye Residt Councill there giving an acct of King Wm's death, wch news they received per a French ship, also an acct of upwards of 150,000 persons drowned in ye Mogull's camp per ye great rains & overflow of a river . . . . . .

"Ye 27th Nov. at 2 in ye afternoon I arrived here [Masulipatam] from Madapm . . . . . ye 29th I delivd Rob. Glessell, Mat. Waller, & Mat. Wood their dispatches & orders here to behave themselves in respect to ye wreck, signed per ye Presidt & myself . . . .

"Ye 15th Dec. arrived in this road the ship *Kathern*, Capn Sam Croft frm Malacca [Capn Wm Holman ye former Comdr dyed at Johoa [Johore].)

1703.

"Sunday ye 4th Jan. arrived here the *Phœnix*, Capn Caswell from Bengall bound for Madras and so to England. The 2nd March in ye morning ye *Katherine*, Capn Sam. Croft sailed out of this road for London, on board her as passengs Thos. Nevile and Geo. Peek.

"Ye 7th April we sett out frm Metchlm on our journey to Daurampaw [Dharapuram] in quest of ye *Norris's* wreck, viz., ye Presidt & myself wth Anto Suphy our Surgn & Mr. Raworth wth 3 other Englishmen, 8 Portugse, & ye rest Peons etc., black servts about 200 in all, beside Koolys & Kowrys.

"Ye 9th in ye morng we came to Pettepollee 6 lgs Gentui from Metchlm. We stayed at this place but 4 hours. Here we had like to have fallen foul of ye Haveldare. The occasion was as follows :—

The Armenian who had before writt us of his having seen ye wreck was come in with his vessell to this place & when ye Presidt arrived here came to see him. We had not been together above ½ an hour but ye Haveldar came wth all ye Peons he could muster to see ye Presidt when he was treated wth all ye respect due to him. We layed a carpet down upon ye grass for him & a Pallankin cushion to lean upon. The President and myself sitting in each our Pallankins; and I askt ye Armenian to sett down by me in ye Pallankin, wch, it seems, ye Haveldar so much resented—because he himself satt upon ye ground—that he tipt a wink to his head officer, who gave this Armenn a punch wth his sword, bes in ye scabbard, on his breast. The Armenian knew ye reason of it & immediately satt upon ye ground. But ye Presidt would not putt it up so, but enquired after ye reason of his so doing, which when he came to understand he, in a great heat, said ye Armenian was his guess (*sic*) & yt he should sitt were (*sic*) he pleased. And after a great many hott words, ye Haveldar was forced to order his officer yt struck ye Armenian to rise and begon—who before satt on ye left hand of ye Presidt. And by his so doing all was at peace again.

"Saturday noon we arrived at Yantapollam, ye next day being ye 11th, in ye morngs we gott to Daurampar, wch is 5 leags Gentue to ye south of Pettepolee. The same day, we went to Alloer where we arrived abt 3 in ye afternoon, wch place is under ye goverment of Doud Cawn, Metchm government reaching no further then Dauramparr & Vellegapundee wch latter lyes 1 Gent. lg beyond ye Alber. About 9 at night we returned to Dauramparr, where we arrived ye next morning early, when we made us harbours to keep us from ye sun and wind. The reason of our coming back was for the conveniency of water & rice—otherwise we designed for Carreera wch lyes 3 lg Gentue to ye southwd of Daurampar, & is on ye sea shore. This place of Dauramparr being 2 miles English up in ye country & lyes by a freshwater river, wch is deep enough for vessels of 200 tons, but ye entrance over ye barr is butt 3 covs at low and 4½ covs. at high water.

"Ye 16th Aprill one of ye head Rajarrs by ye hills came to see ye Presidt, brings a shawl in his hand. The 21st we recd lettrs from Metchlm brings an acct of Rustindill Cawn's publick entry at that place.

"Ye 8th May Presidt Pitt was taken wth an apoplectick fitt betwn 3 & 4 in ye afternoon, of which he dyed about 5 hours & a half after. [Next day] 3 o'clock we buryed him & after we had done so, began our journey back to Metchlm where we arrived ye 12th May in ye morng early."

The *Halifax*, Capt. Hudson arrived from Canton June 23rd and sailed for Bengal July 27th. The *Silvan*, Capt. Chamberlain, arrived from Batavia, in 5 weeks, July 28th.

Ye 17th Aug. all ye English in ye place excepts these in yt old factory went to Polleram, 1 lg Gent. from this place, to meet ye Presidts Corps, brought thither from Dauramparr. We returned in ye evens to Goodre, from whence we walkt to ye English garden, where we interred ye corps abt 8 that night.

Ye 25th ye *Dolphin* sailed for Fort St. George—on her Mrs. Pitt & her family."

31st Decbr (*sic*) recd a Packett frm Fort St. George brings an acct of ye arrival of ye Tavestock there ye 14 dto from England, ye first ship arrived belonging to ye united Compa.

Ye 6th Sept. Mr. Danl Cole, factor, dyed affter some weeks sickness . . . . . .

Ye 25th dto, in ye evening, sett out frm Metchlm in order to go to Fort St. George overland, being necessitated thereto by ye impetuous clamours of ye Merchts for ye money owing them by ye Compa.*

"Ye 26th Sept. we arrived at Trimaneer fort abt 10 in ye morns & abt ½ an hour after at Nerracoedre & the next day we began to pass the river wch we were 3 days in doing having but 3 sangarees, & ye river very broad & ye freshes coming down. When we were over I sent to Tripatee for a boat to pass over ye other river about an hour's journey from us, but he put us off from time [to] time, so that we found he designed us a trick. But his enemy lying on ye other side of sd river, whom he was afraid of, he lent us a country boat to repass ye river we came over, which we did October 1, and having endeavoured all ways to gitt forwd on our journey & all in vain because of ye partys of robbers that lay on ye road, I writt ye 4 dto to Metchlm for ye Compa Country Bt wch we mett att Baherlanca ye 7th dto, and ye same day went down ye river in her as far as Chippaleer, designs for Pettepolle, but hears from ye country people of that place that Pettepolle was also in trouble thro fear of ye robbers, we resolved to go over ye Barr of ye river, & so to go to Dauramparr by sea. Accordingly we sailed frm Chippaleer ye 8th . . . & gott over ye Barr to ye southward of Pettepolle point . . . . & next morns . . . . came before Dauramparr, but having a fair wind & fine weather we resolved to go as far as Kisnapatam river where we arrived safe ye 10 . . . . We run a great hazard 'tis true, in going in an open boat at this time of ye year, & so many people in her, viz: 3 English beside myself, & between 100 & 110 blacks, and with us we had a great deal of lumber amongst wch were 3 Pallankins beside Doolys. But we were forced to do as we did, else must have returned back to Metchlepm.

"Ye 11th Oct, in ye morns we went frm ye sd river over land to Duhraspatam, where we arrived in ye evens. The 12th in ye morns we left Duhras . . . . . and arrived at Pollicat ye next day, & came to Ulwra.

"Ye 14th . . . . . we arrived at Trigature [Tiruchendur], about an hour and a halfs journey to ye northwd of Fort St. George. Abt. 2 in ye afternoon we went fro thence to Narraiads garden, where we arrived an hour afterwards, where we mett wth Mr. Wright & Mr. Raworth, 2 of ye Council of Fort St. George. We slept abt 2 hours at sd garden & arrived at ye Gov's garden abt 5 in ye evens, the Govr made us very welcome.

1705.

"Ye 25 Feb. 170$\frac{4}{5}$. I went on board ye *Duchess*, Capt. Hugh Raymond, Comdr, bound for London, belonging to ye united Compa. The

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* *See* 13th Report, App. III., p. 14.

next day morng very early we sett saile out of y^e^ road of Fort St. George, in company with the *Chambers* frigate, Capt. South com^dr^ belonging to y^e^ old Comp^a^, & y^e^ *Marlborough* Capt. Minter com^dr^, belon^g^ to y^e^ seperate stock, both bound for London" . . . . . .

Storms were the only incidents in the voyage home till May 27, when the ship anchored in the road of St. Helena.

"Y^e^ 15^th^ July in y^e^ evening y^e^ Comadore fired a gun as a signal for all y^e^ ships to weigh anchor, w^ch^ was done, & we sailed fr^m^ St. Helena ab^t^ 10 y^e^ night, in comp^a^ with y^e^ *Tavestock* Cap^n^ Martin, *Chambers* frigate Cap^n^ South, *Samuel & Ann* Cap^n^—— y^e^ *Scipio* Cap^n^ Burrish from Bengall y^e^ *Kent* Cap^n^ Harrison from China y^e^ *Anna* Cap^n^ Kelly fr^m^ Bencoole; y^e^ *Rochester* Cap^n^ Stanes from Surratt, y^e^ *Sidney* from Fort St. George, y^e^ *Marlborough* Cap^n^ Minter from China, but last from Fort St. George, also 5 men of warr, viz.: y^e^ *Kingfisher* y^e^ Comadore Ship, y^e^ *Dartmouth* Cap^n^ Cock, y^e^ *Burlington* Cap^n^ Hosier, y^e^ *Scarborough* Cap^n^ —— y^e^ *Severn* Cap^n^ —— also a French ship taken per y^e^ *Dartmouth* in her outw^d^ bound voyage. Our whole fleet from St. Helena consisted of 16 ships.

"Y^e^ 23^rd^ July in y^e^ morn^g^ we came to an anchor at y^e^ Island Ascencion & sett saile again y^e^ next day even^g^ . . . . . .

"Y^e^ 31^st^ we came up w^th^ a small ship belong^g^ to y^e^ Portug^z^ from Brasile bound to y^e^ Guinea coast to buy slaves . . . . .

"Friday y^e^ 28^th^ Sept. 1705 verry early in y^e^ morning we came to an anchor before Kingsale."

J. H. Round.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF J. R. CARR-ELLISON, ESQUIRE, AT DUNSTON HILL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

The papers of J. R. Carr-Ellison, Esq., of Hedgeley, Northumberland, and Dunston Hill, in the county of Durham, and preserved at the latter place, are of interest for the history of the trade of Newcastle-upon-Tyne throughout the last century. One of his ancestors, Ralph Carr, established a large connection with Scotland, Holland, Norway, and North America as a merchant and general shipping agent, to which he subsequently added the business of a banker. All the copy-books of his own business letters (but not the letters of his correspondents) have been preserved, amounting to some sixty or seventy volumes, and from these, which extend from 1737 to about 1783, much may be learned with reference to the commercial and banking transactions of the time. He mentions in one letter the fact that the shipping trade of Newcastle exceeded that of any other provincial port in England. The chief exports to America were coals, crown glass, bottles, lead, iron, and woollen goods; and the chief import appears to have been tar. The American correspondence of 1748–1775 is contained in two separate volumes; earlier letters are scattered through the preceding general volumes, but from the former year the colonial trade began to assume special importance. The letters cease at the beginning of the War of Independence. In one of the earlier letters Carr says to a correspondent, with reference to a young man whom at the latter's request he had sent out to him as a clerk, "There are few in England who have tolerable bread who would hire themselves to go to America." Many of the names of the persons with whom he corresponded may doubtless have interest for families in America at the present day. Some few of these it may be therefore be worth while to mention. At Boston, in 1748 and onwards, Messrs. Wendell, Ralph Inman (who continued a friend and correspondent up to his death), Edmund, Henry, and Josiah Quincy, Thomas Hutchinson (afterwards governor of Massachusetts), William Bowdoin (who arrived at Boston in 1748), Samuel Wentworth, Samuel Douglas, with many others; in 1764 some of the additional names are John Gould, Nath. and George Bethune, Samuel Scollay, hon. Andrew Oliver, James Griffin. At New York, 1749, Robert Commelin, John Bard, Joris Brinkerhoff, Adoniah Schuyler and Henry Cuyler, John Watts, Henry Lane, Philip Livingston; in 1764, Walter and Samuel Franklin, Lodowick Bomper, Thomas Vardill, Jacob Sarly. Mr. Carr naturally in the course of so long and large intercourse met with some dishonest traders; of one house at New York he says, "I have had too many bad chaps [*i.e.*, buyers, chapmen; *a term very frequently used by him in this sense*] in America, but they are the very worst"; in another, "In truth most of the Americans are too cunning for me." One Mr. William Fletcher, who left Boston for the safer Danish island of St. Eustathia, leaving his debts unpaid, excited special indignation; but in 1763 his character was re-established, a composition was paid, and correspondence resumed.

In Holland there was constant correspondence with the house of Thomas and Adrian Hope, and in Edinburgh with John Coutts, with whom and with the house of Coutts in London Carr was employed in the transmission of money to the army in Scotland in 1745 and in the supply of provisions.

The documents of earlier date than these letter-books are chiefly concerned with the estates and legal affairs of the family of Ellison. Many relate to Jarrow and to the Manor of Hebburne in that parish. But the following are all that need here be noted:—

1617, 5 Oct.—15 Jas. I., Conveyance from William lord Eure to William Mallard, of Studley, esq., Roger Tocketts, John Cholmley, and Robert Gere, and their heirs, of the site of the dissolved cell of Jarrow, with the rectory.

1652.—Rental of the impropriators of Jarrow.

1653, 2 June.—Conveyance from the two daughters and heiresses of Sir Henry Gibb, bart., deceased (viz., Elizabeth, wife of Richard Everard of Waltham, and Frances Gibb) and Edward Gibb to Thomas Bonner, and Robert Ellison of the lordship of Jarrow.

1653, 31 Aug.—Rental of the grounds, salt-pans, and impropriations of Jarrow.

1658, 15 Dec.—To an exemplification in the name of the Protector Richard, of a fine for the Manor of Hebburne, between Robert Ellison and Benjamin Ellison, merchants, plaintiffs, and William Hodshon, esq., and others, deforceants, is attached a very fine and perfect impression of a seal for the county palatine, which is probably, in this state at least, very rare. Obverse: Shield with the arms of the see of Durham, within a fancy border, viz., a cross between 4 lions rampant, "1656. Ad brevia in eodem com. sigilland. deputatum." Rev.: The Protector, on horseback; on the dexter, the same arms.

William D. Macray.

Notes from Letter-Books referring to the Rebellion of 1745.

1745, Sept. 15.—To Mr. John Coutts. "You may be quite easy about your gold, for shoud the Highlanders come this length 'tis easy put out of the way, but I apprehend they will not be allow'd to cross the Firth, nor have they any encouragement for so doing, as so few are ready to join them."

Sept. 24.—"Ere this you've heard of Sir John Cope's defeat, owing to the scandalous behaviour of the dragoons, who deserted without firing a shot, and got to Berwick." The victory, however, did not cause much alarm at Newcastle, for in a subsequent letter it was remarked that should England be invaded and the town attacked, it could not be taken without a train of artillery, which the enemy did not possess.

1745, Oct 1.—A captain is warned not to go to Dunbar, as advice came last night that 200 of the rebels were there.

Oct. 18.—An order is come from the Treasury to allow no ships to clear for Scotland.

Oct. 31.—"Butter will be considerably dearer in a few months, not only on account of a brisk foreign demand, but also for the supply of a large army in Scotland, which must be furnished from us."

Dec. 10.—"All letters to and from Scotland are shamefully stop'd upon the road; some people are of opinion they are first sent to London."

Dec. 14.—"M[ajor-gen.] Wade will be here by Thursday next in his way to Scotland . . . . with 1,600 men."

Dec. 22.—"Wade's army are now here, and buying a good deal of wheat to be ground into flour."

In November a ship belonging to Messrs. Hope under one Capt. Sinclair put into the Orkneys for repair being damaged; in April the news came that he had joined the rebels, taking the ship's guns, &c.; finally, the ship was taken by Capt. O'Brien in the *Sheerness*, one of the King's ships, and treated as a prize.

Notes from the American Letter-Books.

1762.—Some ale shipped in this year gave great dissatisfaction to several buyers, upon which Mr. Carr writes, "In truth the whole malt liquor of England is quite ruined by the last heavy excise, which was laid on to extricate your whole continent from being swallowed by the French; they neither use the quantity of malt nor hops they formerly did, and, what is worse, several unwholesome ingredients are, as it is too much to be fear'd, made use of, so that many parcels which we have ship'd of late have perished in the voyage, and we are resolved to ship no more.

1762, Dec. 17.—"The preliminaries [of peace] were taken into consideration a few days ago by the House of Commons. Mr. Pitt spoke for three hours and a half against many of the articles, and with good reason in our opinion as to some of them, for poor England is always weighed down with her raskally allies. On a division Mr. Pitt headed a poor minority of 65 against 319. In the House of Lords it never came to a division."

1763, Aug. 26.—"Just now eighteen great houses in Amsterdam are fail'd for many millions, also several chief ones at Hamburgh and Stockholm, which it is afraid will affect many more in London, Paris, &c."

Sept. 16.—"We have had prodigious success in our Greenland trade this summer; at first we sold our oil at £15 10 per ton, since which we have got £16 5, and this week for small parcels of five tons £18."

1764, March 6.—"Smith coals are advanced to 13/ per chalder, owing to the great scarcity occasioned by the prodigious storms of rain we have had for some months past, which prevented their getting any stocks from the mines." This was followed by a plentiful harvest in Aug. when there is "the finest weather imaginable like yours in America."

1764, Oct. 26.—In a letter to Sam. Wentworth, esq., at Boston (who died in Sept. 1766), mention is made of the return of one son, H. Wentworth, who had been with Messrs. Carr, and given them great satisfaction, and of another son at Eton, who appears to have returned home in May, 1765.

1765, Feb. 2.—"Coals were never known so scarce as at present in the memory of any person living, owing to the prodigious demand for London, and the scarcity of miners here since the last war. Many ships have been waiting here from two to three months for loadings of coals which they have not yet been able to get." In October of this year 500 vessels had been waiting in the harbour for six weeks unable to get any coals on account of a dispute between the coal-owners and pitmen.

A large consignment of American oak could not find a purchaser, not a single bid being made at a public sale. "The fault they find is not only with its quality, having a brown streak running thro' it, which they

term the *red horse*, but also on account of its great breadth and such variety ; it is also much curved or bent, so that it will cut to immense waste, and runs much narrower at one end than the other. All the English and Dantzig plank is first squared in the tree in the exactest manner to about 12 inches, which is the proper breadth, and requires neither hewing nor waste of wood. We imagine if yours had been cut so, there would have been less objection to it." It was sold at last in Nov. 1766.

1765, July 23.—Mr. William Dunbar, of Thurso in Caithness, "the son of a very reputable clergyman," is strongly recommended for employment on going out to New York.

1768, Apr. 29.—Mr. Ralph Inman is requested to make quest for "a very unfortunate poor lady at Roxbury," Lady Hesilrige, wife of the son [Robert] of Sir Arthur Hesilrige, who is enquired for by Mr. Jonathan Ormston, Sir Arthur's trustee, and who must make proof of her marriage. Also to interest himself on behalf of a poor woman of Newcastle, Hannah Nicholson, who has never received a legacy of £200 left her in 1763 by her son Edward Nicholson in Virginia and retained by one James Hunter there ; "we are determined to be at any expense or trouble in order to procure her justice."

May 12.—Shipping delayed for four or five weeks by riots among the sailors and keelmen for increase of wages, which they obtained to the amount of an increase of one-fourth.

1768, Nov. 18.—Letter to Lady Hesilrige at Boston : 120*l.* to be paid to her as the interest due on the 500*l.* legacy from the death of her father[in-law], Sir Arthur Hesilrige, and 20*l.* annually. "I most sincerely lament that your unhappy situation and worth were not known before the death of Sir Arthur ; sure I am you and yours would have been provided for, but it is the hand of Providence, which is still able to conduct and assist you. No doubt you heard that Sir Arthur left his estate to the youngest of five sons, and even thought him very unworthy of it, and [I] doubt he has not been mistaken by the accounts I have of him. He is not yet of age ; when he is I pray God he may have an inclination equal to his ability to assist you. For your son, as he will have the title, ought to have the estate likewise. I had much talk with Mr. Ormston as to paying you in the 500*l.*, but this he apprehends cannot be done till your children are of age, but when they get an estate in this neighbourhood sold for the payment of legacies and the other sons' fortunes, he will consult the nobleman [lord Maynard] who was left joint trustee with him."

1768, Nov. 18.—"It is a most lamentable consideration to this kingdom that there should be almost open war between one part and another. The colonists object to every mode of taxation, without ever proposing how much they will raise in their own way toward the millions of debt England is loaded with, and taxed to the very teeth to pay the interest of, and which was actually expended in the sole defence and support of the colonies."

1770, July 2.—Letter to James Hunter, Fredericksburgh, Virginia, demanding in the strongest terms payment of the legacy (mentioned under 1768) of which he has defrauded Hannah Nicholson. [Other letters follow on the subject ; Hunter remitted money by instalments].

Same date.—Letter to Lady Hesilrige, urging her to send her eldest son over to England ; he hopes the sight of him would warm lord Maynard (who is 80 years old) into compassion for the unmerited loss of his birthright.

1771, Apr. 4.—Letter to Lady Hesilrige, congratulating her on the reception her son has met with from lord Maynard, who in letters to

Mr. Ormston "expresses more of a parental fondness for him than my most sanguine wishes could even hope for." Enclosing a copy of a letter of thanks to lord Maynard, dated 30 March. [It is subsequently mentioned that the latter sent his young relation to school at Chiswick, and in April 1773 sent him to Calcutta. He died in the East Indies in 1805. Several original letters from Lady Hesilrige are preserved.]

1772, Feb. 12.—The river at Newcastle is closed with ice, putting a stop to all trade; "this, added to the misfortune of our bridge being carried away, which has stood for many hundred years, causes the greatest distress to this country, besides many hundred thousand pounds' loss by that unparallelled flood."

The last letter to Boston (about the despatch of coals, to be landed at Salem, in consequence of the closing of the port of Boston), is dated 16 September 1775. Four letters follow written to Robert Harvey, esq., at Grenada in 1775–8.

Original Miscellaneous Letters.

In the years 1708–10 there are letters to Robert Ellison respecting the sale of some land to him from Thomas Forster and Jane Fenwick, wife of lieut. Michael Fenwick of Hebborne. The former may no doubt be identified with the commander of the Chevalier's army in the insurrection of 1715. A letter from A[nne] Widdrington to Mrs. Carr at Bath, without date of year, is from the wife of the eldest son of the lord Widdrington who was attainted for his share in the same rising. The letter shows that in spite of forfeiture the son used his father's title; the writer (who dates from Bond Street, Saturday, 7 Jan., possibly 1749) sends an invitation to a concert which "my lord" has fixed for Monday, "23rd of thiss inst."; he "hass invited all the company, and engagd the musical people; it will begin at twelve a clock . . . . It is to be at Turnham Green, having no conviuence for any sutch thing in Bond Street."

1758, Feb. 6.—A letter from Mr. Matthew Bell without address, to someone then in London, relates to one of the first issue of bank notes by the bank established by Mr. Carr and his partners. "I was desir'd to send you the enclosed to have a plate cut, for twenty shillings notes; one pound in the body of the note, and the twenty shillings at bottom, are both intended to be in the like hand that the sum is wrote in in the notes of the Bank of England, and a scrawel [scroll?] on the left hand, You will hear of the man who cut the plate for the other notes at Vere's; he lives in Wine Licence Court in Fleet Street . . . . You must also provide a large quantity of a strong tough paper for these notes."

1759.—A copy of an express sent from the Admiralty on 30 Nov. to Lord Ravensworth, giving an account of Lord Hawke's victory at Belleisle on 20 Nov., is communicated to Mr. Carr by one Nicholas Walton.

1760, Apr. 22, London.—A letter from Thomas Coutts, the banker, informs Mr. Carr that the business at Edinburgh will now go on, in consequence of the death of a partner, in the name of his brother James Coutts alone, who "is connected with some of the best families in England." In another letter in Feb. 1787 he says that he is the last of his family, so that the very name is likely to be no more, four sons having died in infancy, while three daughters survive. "Coutts brothers & C° " write from Edinburgh in 1762 to introduce Francis Garden [lord Gardenstone], the King's Solicitor for Scotland.

1761.—Lord Ravensworth on 28 March writes to communicate to Mr. Carr that he has great reason to believe that there is prospect of peace; he feels how tender the point is, and therefore only mentions it as a hint, supposing that in the course of Carr's great traffic abroad the conclusion of the war may make great alterations. He begs that not a word may be intimated as coming from him.

[1761, Oct.]—Edward Mosley [town-clerk of Newcastle] to Ralph Carr; not dated. "London is in a ferment about the resignation of Mr. Pitt and Lord Anson, but its thought those gentlemen will be soon reinstated. It is said the difference has arisen from some haughty memorial presented by the Spanish ambassador, recommending our Court to accept the proposals of France towards a peace, which being couch'd rather too insolently for Mr. Pitt's approbation, he was for having war declared against Spain forthwith; in consequence of which great debates arose, and the duke of Bedford handled Pitt a little unbecoming a gentleman of his station."

1763.—A letter from a lady at Bath named A. Hollier to Mrs. Carr, dated 31 Jan. 1763, gives an account of a scene in an assembly room there which, although little creditable to those concerned, would seem of a kind which at that time was not infrequent. "They say Bath hath been very full this winter, but we have kept snug to our private parties, and gone very little to the rooms. Indeed, my sister went to the Queen's birthday ball at Wiltshire's rooms, which was in general esteemed a very good one; but at the close of it they cooked up a little sort of a riot: for the candles went out before twelve o'clock, the music went off in the middle of a dance, and left the company in the dark, who could by no means get the music again or a replenish of candles, or even a little negus to drink, tho' they could prove the rooms cleared five and forty guineas by the subscription. Upon which one of the gentlemen said, he remembered upon such affronts as these it used to be custom to break the lustres and glasses; upon which hint there was negus produced in plenty, and the gentlemen threw it all over the room, broke eight bowls, and went off in a rage, swearing there should never be another ball at those rooms; but Wiltshire having made proper submissions they have passed it by, and the balls go on there as usual. Collet had carried himself off before upon some affront he had received, of which he has had plenty this winter, and since that night hath resigned his office to one Derrick, a little Irishman, to whom they say the rooms are to allow fifty pounds a year. If that is the case, it is no hard matter to prognosticate what authority he will gain, and how far it will be attended to."

1769–1771.—Three letters on matters of business from Mrs. Elizabeth Montague, the well-known foundress of the Blue Stocking Club. In one of them she remarks, "The town is in great impatience for the meeting of the Parliament. My great comfort is that we live in God's world, and not in one governed by ministers or their opposers . . . . . Most busy and zealous people in politicks mean either to keep a place or to get one."

1772, March 9, London.—L. Dutens to Mr. Carr. "One should not allow one's friends to be led astray by a dirty set of news writers, for which reason I set down to assure you that it is not true that the Queen of Denmark has undergone a tryall. Nothing in all this is certain but the cruelties exerced (*sic*) against the physician and his brother. The King of Denmark himself is looked upon as a prisonner, and he is under a strong guard by way of doing him honor; he is really supposed to be weak in his mind, and as the Queen Dowager and Prince Frederick are at the head of affairs it is thought he will be

aside soon . . . . . I was at a rout last Friday at Northumberland House; Miss Surtees was the prettiest figure there. I said we had two dozen such at Newcastle, to justify my stay there."

1773, Aug. 10, London.—David Brown, Governor General of the Danish Settlements in India, to Ralph Carr, requesting the loan of 2,000*l.* or 3,000*l.* for three or four years at 6 per cent. [There is a letter from John Brown, dated 21 Apr. 1772, proposing to Carr to invest in "our" Danish East India Company, for which a new charter had just been signed by the King of Denmark.]

1774, July 2, Parliament Street, London.—Letter from Governor Hutchinson to Ralph Carr, esq. "Sir, Soon after the recipt of your last letter I received the King's leave to come to England, but the state of my government obliged me to defer my voyage from time to time. I intended immediately to desire you to give your order upon me for the sum you proposed, and whenever you think fit to draw for thirty-five pounds, your draught shall be answered.

"After the most cruel calumnies and slanders I am happy in receiving from the King as full and explicit an approbation of every part of my conduct as perhaps has ever been given to any servant of the Crown. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, Tho. Hutchinson."

Hutchinson had been a frequent business-correspondent with Mr. Carr up to 1763, but then their correspondence ceased in consequence of a dispute respecting some bullion-glass sent out by the latter; it was slightly renewed in 1768, and in 1773 Carr proposed a compromise which in this letter is accepted. In his reply, dated 8 July (of which the draft remains), Carr congratulates him on his safe arrival from a place where even his life was in eminent hazard; "the highest approbation of his Majesty must be thought by every man in old England no more than what your uniform conduct highly merited, and am glad to see so great a number of the most respectable and dispassionate in New England are of the same sentiments, which is a great consolation, tho' I hope the gratitude of the nation will not stop there."

1786, Aug. 13, Mountclare.—Sir John Dick, bart., Comptroller of the army accounts, to Mr. Carr. "The horrid attempt on the King's life gave every one the sensation of infinite surprise and alarm: that there should be in this kingdom one found to be so insane even to compass and imagine the death of the present King, and much more to make an attempt on his life, is matter of the highest astonishment. For altho' there may be much difference of opinion touching many of the political measures of his ministers, yet if ever there was a prince *sans reproche* in all his conduct and actions towards his people, he is the man; for he certainly never injoured (*sic*) one of them in his family, his property, or his persuasion in religion. Now as madness always acts from some impression of the mind and the impulse of some dominating idea, it seems unaccountable what idea could have instigated Margaret Nicholson. If the refusal to grant the prayers of petitions and memorials of grievances and distress be conceiv'd to be a just cause of assassination, not only kings but their ministers, their boards, and even their commissioners, will be of all men the most misarable (*sic*); but I hope there is not an other person like this diabolical woman suffer'd to go loose. His Majesty's presence of mind and composure were noble and striking; he enter'd the levée room a few minutes after, and no one present had the least suspision (*sic*) from his appearance that any thing extraordinary had happen'd . . . . . I hope you will have as plentifull a harvest in the north as we have here. The prices of the stocks will show you that money is also plenty here, except in the pocketts of the fashionable people, they take care never to

have plenty of anything but debts. If we can but preserve the peace for fifteen or twenty years, our successors will have the satisfaction of seeing this country in a happy situation; but to do this we must keep pace with the French, who are very busy in augmenting their navy."

1788.—A letter from Capt. W. Skerrett of the 19th Foot to Mr. Ralph Carr, dated at Lucea, Jamaica, 24 June, 1788, is worth quoting for the remarks made on the condition of the slaves in Jamaica. "Our situation here has been critical. We are not without our fears of an insurrection among the negroes. The extreme absurdity of your people at home has occasioned all this. The pious bishop of London [Porteous] and Mr. Wilberforce, with others, have laid the seeds of discontent, and flattered these unfortunate people with a prospect of emancipation. If ever this takes place, adieu to your West India islands. It is a pity that the original rights of mankind cannot be made the standard of government. It is a sad misfortune we can only justify by policy what morality condemns. The Legislature may soften the situation of this unfortunate race of human beings. The planters should be compelled to treat with attention the young, the aged, and the infirm; the woman who has brought the planter six children should have her freedom. Slaves who have been remarkable for their fidelity in giving information or suppressing of rebellion, the same indulgence should be extended to. The French treat their slaves much better than we do. They endeavour to soften their situation, are much kinder to them, and speak to them with mildness, and the negroes are found to be less stupid among the French. John Bull does not endeavour to conciliate their affections. He sees that they are well fed, but then he sometimes exercises those cruelties at which human nature no less recoils. I do believe it is tyranny that plunges them in that profound stupidity which we always see in a Jamaica negro." Capt. Skerrett encloses a copy of a memorial which he addressed to Sir George Yonge, Secretary at War, on 24 Aug. 1787, setting forth his claims, by service, to a majority by purchase, but complains of injury done him by Gen. Græme. He had been 29 years in the army, serving at Belleisle and Gibraltar, and in America and the West Indies. He quotes a letter recommending him for promotion which was written by Gen. Gould, the Commander-in-Chief in Carolina, to Sir Henry Clinton, after an action at Shewbrick's Plantation on 17 July, 1781, in which the General says that Capt. Skerrett received six balls, that his humanity to the wounded after the action was as conspicuous as his conduct, and "that he is this day one of the strongest instances of neglected merit that I ever was acquainted with in the service." Skerrett's memorial was presented to the King, whose gracious and flattering answer was, that he should be provided for.

In the same year Sir John Dick writes from the Horse Guards to Mr. Carr, strongly urging his assisting Capt. Skerrett to purchase his majority on the ground that "in times of peace, when past services are forgotten, and ministers are under the necessity of attending to political applications," there was little chance of his otherwise obtaining it. He would have to pay an advanced price over and above the King's regulation; "indeed, at present there are few purchases made at the regulation price."

1796.—A petition from the debtors confined in Durham Gaol on 11 Jan. illustrates the description of that prison and the condition of its inmates given by Howard, who says he found some there whose sole food was bread boiled in water; they beg Mr. Carr to assist them "at

this extreme time of need, being shutt up in this gloomy prision, and confined with the refuse and most abandond of mankind."

1798.—To Will. Seward's *Biographiana*, published with the date of 1799, is prefixed an allegorical frontispiece by Miss Harriet Carr, to whom the book is dedicated. The following letter to Mr. Carr, dated at Richmond 9 Nov. 1798, shows that the issue of the book had then already taken place. "Dear Sir, By the favour of your son I have the honour of your letter. I'm very glad that my compilations have amused you. No one knows better than myself their defects. Biography is however always read with ardour, and I fear your candour has in the subject overlooked the execution, the manner in the matter. Miss Harriet's frontispiece will very much promote the diffusion of the Biographiana. She has appended an exquisite Corinthian portico to a heap of ruins. I hear that she is about to change her situation to the entire satisfaction of those who know her and who love her best. I sincerely wish her in her new distinction as happy as they can wish her, and as happy as her talents and virtues entitle her to be. I am much obliged to you for your kind wishes to me, and have only to wish that I deserved the benedictions of worth and of virtue like yours. My kind wishes in return can only be directed to your cheerfullness and freedom from pain in the present state of your existence. The unmarred tenor of your valuable and excellent life has secured you every beatitude of eternity." (!)

1801.—The cruelty of the old press-gang system is exhibited in a piteous letter from one Edward Dodd, dated at Ponteland 20 June, appealing for help on behalf of a son, who had been taken when sent to sea for a trial-voyage to London; "in the Nore he was impress'd, and dragged away by oppression's savage grasp, and sent to Egypt or elsewhere to be butcher'd . . . . Oh, Sir, could you in mercy to the afflicted hit upon a plan to procure his liberation, I may say redemption, and restore a dearly beloved son to the arms of a fond father, you would do one of the most merciful and kindest actions a man ever did."

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE CORPORATION OF COVENTRY (Second Report).

At the outset of their labours in 1869, Her Majesty's Commissioners on Historical Manuscripts directed the late Mr. Henry Thomas Riley to repair to Coventry, and inspect and report upon the ancient writings of the Corporation of that City,—an order that resulted in the brief account of the Coventry Records, which was offered to students in the Appendix to the Commissioners' First Report in February 1870. As this sketch of an exceptionally numerous collection of historical muniments occupies no more than three columns of the Appendix, it is not surprising that, after a lapse of more than a quarter of a century, it has seemed right to Her Majesty's present Commissioners on Historical MSS. to issue a second and more adequate account of the several thousands of writings which Mr. Riley dealt with in so cursory a manner.

It must not, however, be assumed that Mr. Riley, who did so much good work in the service of the Historical MSS. Commissioners, is in any degree blameworthy for the inadequacy of his account of the Coventry muniments. At a time when the operations of the Commissioners were necessarily experimental and tentative, and when it was thought desirable that no long time should elapse between the creation of the Commissioners' powers and the publication of their First Report, Mr. Riley was instructed to examine the muniments belonging to the Corporations of Abingdon, Bridgwater, Cambridge, Coventry, Glastonbury, Norwich, Nottingham, Wells, York, and Christ's Hospital at Abingdon, and to send in reports on all these ten collections of muniments in time for their publication in the Appendix to the Commissioners' First Report. He was at the same time required to inspect the muniments of Christ's College, King's, Pembroke, Queen's, St. John's, St. Peter's, and Trinity in the University of Cambridge, the Bishop's Registry at Norwich, the Bishop's Registry at Wells, the muniment-room of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, the muniment-room of the Dean and Chapter of Wells, and the muniment-room of the Dean and Chapter of York, and to furnish a written account of each of these twelve bodies of muniments so that it should appear in the same Appendix. It may be observed that the Letters under Her Majesty's sign-manual, which created the first Historical MSS. Commission were dated on 2nd April 1869, and that the Commissioners' First Report was dated on the 26th February 1870. It was, therefore, of course, understood, alike by the Inspector and by the Commissioners who required him to examine and report upon twenty-two different collections of muniments in the course of a few months, that his examination of each collection should be superficial and that his report upon it should be brief. In fact, in this opening stage of the operations of the Commission, it was intended that, instead of being lengthy and particular summaries for the satisfaction of historical inquirers, the reports by the inspectors should be such mere memoirs as would afford

a general view of the muniments lying in different parts of the country, and enable the Commissioners to see which of the many collections of ancient writings were most deserving of their consideration.

At the time of Mr. Riley's visit to Coventry, in 1869, something had been done for modifying the extreme confusion and disorder in which the multifarious archives of the Corporation were lying at the opening of the present century. Some thirty-six years had passed since Mr. Thomas Sharp and Mr. George Eld, two local antiquaries of more than ordinary intelligence and culture, had selected a considerable number of letters and other writings from an enormous and disorderly accumulation of archives (beginning with Queen Isabel's epistle to the Mayor and Bailiffs of Coventry *temp.* Edward III.), and had arranged them chronologically in two large folio volumes, which afforded to the Inspector the most important information in his report. Later antiquaries had gathered and bound into similar volumes a considerable proportion of the old Bills, Sacrament-Certificates, and miscellaneous papers, out of the piles of the less interesting writings. But though something had been done, and much was being done under the supervision of Mr. William Browett the elder, the then Town Clerk of Coventry, to lessen the confusion of the records, the main body of them was still in such disorder that Mr. Riley was quick to see that to give even a general view of so vast a collection it would be needful to spend twice as many weeks as circumstances would permit to spend days in the muniment-rooms of St. Mary's Hall. After giving a few particulars of the principal volumes he added at the conclusion of his report, "The Corporation is also in possession of charters and deeds, probably many hundreds in number, from the 12th century downwards." The "many hundreds" have, however, been found on recent and more deliberate examination to amount to no less than six thousand three hundred and forty-nine.

Like the muniments of Chester, Southampton, Ipswich, and King's Lynn, the Coventry muniments comprise writings that distinguish them from other collections of Corporation MSS. which the present reporter has examined in the service of Her Majesty's Commissioners. From the time of Edward III. to the period of the Reformation Coventry was remarkable for the wealth and importance of its Guilds and the number of its Chantries. By two grants made in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., negotiated for the advantage of the municipality by Sir Thomas White, the greater part of the lands, rents, and other property of these Guilds and Chantries passed into the hands of the Corporation of the City, and together with the lands and rents there passed also a large proportion of the records that related to them. Moreover, on the suppression of the ancient Priory and the demolition of the superb Cathedral Church of St. Mary of Coventry, many of the writings belonging to them, of like character as evidences of more property, were transferred to the Mayor and Citizens of Coventry, instead of being carried away with the main body of the archives to the Court of Augmentations. Hence in these accumulated writings, the Corporation possesses much that distinguishes these civic muniments from most, if not all, other municipal archives.

For giving a view of their character it will be convenient to deal with them in the following groups :—

(*a.*) *Books*, to the number of - - - 188 volumes.

(*b.*) *Charters, Letters Patent under the Privy Seal or Signet, with or without the Sign Manual, and Indentures granted by Sovereigns*, to the number of - - - - 89 writings.

(*c.*) *Deeds, to wit, Grants in frankalmoigne, Quit-claims, Leases, Agreements, Awards of Arbitrators, Testaments, Bonds, Powers of Attorney, &c., &c.*, to the number of - 6,265 writings.
(*d.*) *Exemplifications of Curial Records, Writs of special interest, and Letters of Commission, not being Letters Patent*, to the number of - 10 writings.
(*e.*) *Rolls and Files*, to the number of - - 18 sets.
(*f.*) *Miscellaneous papers*, put away in - - - 30 packets.

To afford an adequate notion of the total number comprised in these groups, it may be stated that a single file put together in the present century holds no less than 118 Statute Merchant Rolls, and that several of the packets of Miscellaneous Papers contain in each packet from 50 to 100 separate instruments. Account being taken of those that have been thus gathered together and bound into volumes, or made into rolls or files, or put away in packets, the separate documents may be computed as numbering altogether about eleven thousand.

1.—*Books.*

Of these volumes the most noteworthy are the following:—

1. Escheats.

27 Edward I.–16 Elizabeth.—Collection of Escheators' Inquests *post mortem*, bound together, lettered "Inq. Post Mortem."

2. Chartulary.

Henry IV.–Henry VIII.—Chartulary and Deeds Register: a vellum quarto in clog-cover, containing in the opening entries a few matters of earlier times.

3. Leet Books.

(*a*) 8 Henry V.–1 and 2 Philip and Mary.—Leet Book of the City: a book of the highest moment to students of municipal institutions and usages.
(*b*) 30 Elizabeth–1834.—A second volume, less interesting than the preceding one; but noteworthy in its earlier part for matters illustrating the government, condition, industries, and manners of the city in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

4. Craft of the Carpenters.

(*a*) Henry VI.–Edward IV.—Book of the Receipts and Payments of successive Masters of the Company of the Craft of Carpenters.
(*b*) 1478–1652.—Another Book of the Receipts and Payments of successive Masters.

5. Guild of Corpus Christi and St. Nicholas.

3 Henry VIII.–1 Mary.—Book of the yearly accounts of successive Masters of the Guild of Corpus Christi and St. Nicholas, closing with the account of Thomas Leche, bailiff of the possessions of the *late*

Guild of Corpus Christi for one year, made 24th November, 1 Mary. Defective in the later part. This bulky folio has been bound in a modern leather cover, correctly and fully lettered on the back.

6. Chamberlains' Books.

(*a*) 14 Henry VII.—16 Elizabeth.—Book of the yearly accounts of successive Chamberlains.

(*b*) 17 Elizabeth–11 Charles I.—A second Book of the accounts.

(*c*) 12 Charles I.–9 Anne.—A third Book of the accounts of successive Wardens and Chamberlains.

7. Manor of Cheillesmore.

1542–1561.—Account Book of the Manor of Cheillesmore, having this statement of its contents on its opening leaf: 'This booke conteyneth aswell the receites of al sommes of money brought in and payd to the Chambre or treasorie of the Citie of Coventrie, as well by the Chamberleyns wardens and all other accomptantes of the seid citie, as otherwise, yerlie commyng and growing to the use of the commoinaltie or comen box of the same citie, as also dyvers charities paymentes and deduccions out of the same, and also what revenewes and profittes and yerlie impositions and charges be to the citie for everie Meires tyme as hereafter in the same more plenlie may appear.'

8. Loans and Allowances.

(*a*) 1551–1704.—Folio Register of payments made, by way of loan or allowance, out of various estates held by the Mayor and community of Coventry in trust for charitable uses, to wit, the Charity Estates of Lady Spencer, Mr. Symon Parker, Mr. White of Bristowe, Mr. Willyngton, Mr. John Talente, Mr. Nethermyll, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Tompson, Mr. Over, Mr. Niccolls, Mr. Elkinton, Mrs. Elizabeth Sharratt, Mrs. Jane Picken, Mr. Wheatleye, Mr. Haddon, Mr. Sale, Mr. Davenport, and others.

(*b*) 19 Elizabeth–1625.—Similar folio Register of Loans and Allowances.

(*c*) 1736–1779.—Book of Loans: being 'An Account of the Loan money of Sir Thomas White, which has been retained by the Corporation of Coventry since the pronouncing of the Decree dated on the twentieth day of December in 1723.'

9. Overseers of Bablake Hospital.

1561–1573.—Separate Accounts of successive Overseers of the Bablake Hospital, bound together in a modern leather cover, correctly lettered on the back.

10. Municipal Treasury Books.

(*a*) 1561–1653.—Book of Payments made out of the Municipal Treasury. The first leaf is headed with this description: "In this booke be mencioned and wrytten all and singuler summes of money whiche have been taken of the Treasurie of this citie and payed."

(*b*) 20 Charles II.–1698.—Folio of yearly Accounts of successive Bailiffs and Receivers of the rents and revenues from the lands and tenements, &c., formerly belonging to the Guilds and Chantries.

(*c*) 1692–1701.—Large Folio of similar yearly Accounts.

(*d*) 1700–1701.—Book of Accounts of the Bailiff and Receiver of "the rents and revenues of the lands and tenements called the Guilds and Chantrys": containing a comprehensive Rental of the various lands, tenements and stocks in the hands of the Corporation for municipal and charitable uses.

(*e*) 1728–1734.—Book of Payments out of the same estates.

11. Charities.

17 Elizabeth–2 James II.—Large Folio of the yearly Accounts of successive Bailiffs and receivers of the rents and revenues from lands and tenements, &c., held by the Corporation for charitable uses.

12. Tithe Accounts.

(*a*) 1577–1697.—A defective collection of Tithe Accounts, bound together in a modern leather cover, lettered at the back, "City of Coventry. Tithe Accounts, 1597."

(*b*) 1608–1705.—Twenty-eight separate Tithe Account Books of the following years, to wit, 1608, 1609, 1611, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1617, 1619, 1622, 1675, 1679, 1684, 1685, 1688, 1689, 1690, 1691, 1692, 1693, 1694, 1695, 1697, 1698, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705.

(*c*) 1612.—Tithe-Book anno 1612: bound in a modern leathercover, lettered at the back, "Tythe Book—1612."

(*d*) 1822–1830.—Ledger of the City's Tithe-Accounts, lettered on one of the sides and on the back, "Corporation Tithe Accounts."

13. Lands and Tenements of the City.

23 Elizabeth.—Survey of all the lands and tenements of the Corporation of the City of Coventre "Surveid by John Emerson, the Bailiffe of the lands late Yeldes and Chauntries in the said Cittie, and Thomas Banester the Clarke to the Counsell of the same Cittie."

14. Lands of the Lordship of Stoke.

1617.—Survey of lands in the Lordship of Stoke, headed on its first page, "The Survey of those severall landes in the Lordship of Stoke, which the freehoulders and tenants intend to lay in several flattes, begonn the 26 daie of January 1617 and ended the . . . . of . . . . "

15. Flattes in Stoke Common Fields.

1617–1619.—"Booke of the laying forth of the Flattes in Stoke Common feildes and meadowes begonn March 12, 1617, and ended in September, 1619: Which was done by the opinions and consent of the names of theise which follow, viz., Mr. Thomas Ligons for Lord Berkeley and Mr. Ralph English his tenant, Mr. Christofer Waryn freehoulder, Mr. Samuell Myles for the City of Coventrey and for the Drapers being their tenant, Mr. John Hammond, Doctor in Physick freehoulder, Mr. Reginald Horne freehoulder, Mr. Christofer Roudell freeholder, and John Sharman tenant to the City of Coventre."

16. Lordship of Gadsby, co. Leicester.

1625.—A Terrier of all "the arable lands leyes and meadows" in the lordship of Gadsby co. Leicester, belonging to the Mayor, bailiffs and community of Coventre.

17. Burton's Book of Records and Evidences.

10 Charles I.—Burton's Book: a large folio described on its opening leaf as "A collection of divers Records, deeds, evidences, and proceedings concerning the great Suit in Chancerie brought against this Citie of Coventrie and others by Prince Charles for £98 6*s.* 8*d.* rent per annum as parcell of the Dutchie of Cornewall, taken out of the Tower, Augmentacion Office, Rolls and other places, and of certain charters belonging to this citie &c."

18. Ship-Money.

1635–1637.—Book of matters touching ship money: containing on its fly-leaf this note by the maker of the book: "This Booke touching ship money raised in Warwickshire sheweth the manner and proceedings thereabouts, and how that the Citie of Coventrey and the Countie thereof is to be rated but at a fifteenth part of Warwickshire, in all levies assessments and taxacions wherein the said Citie joineth with the countie of Warwick, and that it is so ordered by the right honourable the Lords and others of his Majesties most honourable Privie Councill, for the future quietness of that City in all such services and assessments whatsoever."

19. Hospital in Grey Friars Lane.

1648.—History of the Hospital or Almshouse in Grey Friars Lane in the city of Coventre, from the time of its foundation in the reign of Henry VIII.

20. Murage Book.

1650.—"The Murage Booke of all tenements within the walls of the City of Coventre."

21. Rate for better Maintenance of Ministers.

1652.—Book of "The Rate and Assessment of all houses, shops, warehouses, cellars, stables and all other landes, tenementes and hereditaments in the said citie of Coventrie at eighteen pence in the pound per annum, and for everie ten shillings nyne-pence per annum, for raising of maintenance for the Ministers of the said Citie by vertue of an Act of Parliament, dated the 21st of March 1650, intituled 'An Act for the more frequent preaching of the Gospell, and better maintenaunce of the Ministers in the Citie of Coventrie.'"

22. Corvisors' Company.

1653–1760.—An imperfect series of the Accounts of the Corvisors' or Curriers' Company, bound in a modern leather cover, lettered at the back "Cordwainers' Company, Accounts, 1653–1760."

23. Tailors and Clothworkers.

1659–1660.—Book of the Taylors' and Clothworkers' Company, in the time of Henry Ashburne, Master.

24. Indexes of Deeds.

(*a*) 17th century.—Index of Deeds, in handwriting of the later part of the seventeenth century, lettered on the back of its modern leather cover, "Citie of Coventre, Index of Deeds, &c."

(*b*) 17th century.—An Alphabetical Index to the Deeds and Evidences in the Treasury of the City, made towards the close of the seventeenth century, and perfected from an Index made in September 1621, which in May 1832 was in the possession of Mr. Thomas Sharp.

25. Sword and Mace Riots.

1713.—Papers touching a cause between the Attorney General, plaintiff, and the Mayor, bailiffs, and community of the City of Coventry, defendants: in a volume lettered on the back "Sword and Mace Riots 1713."

26. Tailors' and Sheremen's Company.

1728–1724.—Papers of the Tailors' Company, put together in chronological disorder, bound in a leather cover, and lettered on the back, "Order Book—Tailors' and Sheremen's Company 1728."

27. Drapers' Company.

1729.—Abstract of the Deeds and Writings of Lands, &c., belonging to the Drapers' Company in the City of Coventry: and lettered thus on the back.

28. Sacrament Certificates.

1720–1730.—Collection of Sacrament Certificates, bound together in a leather cover and lettered on the back.

29. Streets' Commissioners.

1790–1807.—Streets' Commissioners' Book, to wit, "Proceedings and Orders made at meetings of the Commissioner appointed to execute the Act of Parliament 'for the better paving cleansing lighting and watching the City of Coventry and the suburbs thereof, and removing and preventing nuisances and annoyances therein.'"

30. Register of Charity Estates.

1813.—Register of the Charity Estates of the City, lettered on the back of its leather cover "Charity Memorial Register," opening with "a Memorial or Statement in pursuance of an Act of Parliament for the Registering and Securing of Charitable Donations," giving particulars of "the Charity Estate called Sir Thomas White's Charity."

31. Leases of Charity Estates.

1819–1845.—Book of Charity Estates: setting forth the Estates under the management of the Trustees of the General Charities of the City, together with the names of the several lessees, the amount of rent paid yearly by each, the term of years for which each estate is let, and the date at which each term will expire.

32. Original Letters.

A collection completed in 1834 by Mr. Thomas Sharp and Mr. George Eld of Original Letters and Papers, beginning with a letter written in behalf of the Friars Minors of Coventre by Queen Isabella to the Mayor, bailiffs and commonalty of Coventre, and closing with the Indenture, dated on 24th October 1704, of the acknowledgment made by Samuel Billing, Maior elect of the City of Coventry, of his receipt of the silver plate and other things of the Corporation, aud of his promise to restore the same to the Treasury on the determination of his mayoralty. This collection was made, arranged, and bound by Messrs. Sharp and Eld in two large folios, lettered on back "Original Letters and Papers."

33. Territorial Extent of Coventry.

1839.—Reports made by Mr. Stacey Grimaldi to Messrs. Troughton and Lea, solicitors of the Corporation of Coventry on the territorial extent of the town or city of Coventre, &c., after searching public and other records "in order to ascertain whether the Hamlets of Ansty, Exhall, Foleshill, Keresley, Sowe, Stivichall, Stoke, and Wyken are or were antiently within the town of Coventry or the jurisdiction of the same." Large Folio, lettered on the back, "City of Coventry. Reports as to the territorial extent of the City of Coventry and jurisdiction of the Corporation of Coventry over adjoining hamlets."

34. Coventry Boundary Case.

1839–1842.—Book of the Case for the City of Coventry, with brief delivered to counsel, in the cause in the Court of Exchequer between the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the City of Coventry, plaintiffs, against Edmund Lythall, William Wilson and seven others, defendants. Lettered on the back of its leather cover, "City of Coventry. Boundary Case. Brief, &c."

Those of the one hundred and eighty-eight volumes that are not mentioned in the foregoing list of the more important, comprise Rentals of 1552 and subsequent years, an imperfect series of Council Books beginning in 1557 (twenty-four volumes), fifteen volumes of Court Books beginning in 1585, a collection of Constables' Presentments (1629–1742), translations into English of divers of the Latin charters and Letters Patent of the City, ten volumes of Sessions of Peace or Petty Sessions Books (1689–1835), collections of Tavern Bills and other old bills, several compilations touching the history of Coventre, reports of municipal boards and committees, and divers other matters lying outside the scope of H.M. Commission on Historical MSS.

II.—Charters, Letters Patent; Letters under the Privy Seal or the Signet, with or without the Sign Manual; and Indentures of Leases granted by Sovereigns.

Earl Ranulph's Charter.

[1153.]—Charter dated at Covintre (*sic*) by Ranulph, Earl of Chester: Granting, with other concessions, to his burgesses of Covintre and their heirs, that they may hold in free burgage of him and his heirs as firmly and freely as they held in the time of the Earl's father and other ancestors; with grant to them of all the liberties and good laws enjoyed by the burgesses of Lincoln, and that they shall not be drawn in any matter to the Earl's Castle to plead, but shall have their own Portmote, in which all pleas touching the Earl and them may be dealt with.

Confirmation of the Earl's Charter.

[*c.* 1177 ?].—Charter by Henry II. dated "apud Merlebergam," of confirmation to the burgesses of Covintre (*sic*) of the charter granted to them by Ranulph, Earl of Chester; With further concessions, for the greater security of the liberties granted by the Earl's charter.

Licence to give Land to the Prior and Convent of Coventre.

31 Edward I., November 6th [1303].—Letters Patent of Licence to Peter de Blockesley to give and assign for ever to the Prior and Convent of Coventre a messuage and two virgates of land with their appurtenances in Sowe, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Inspeximus of Henry the Third's Charter.

17 Edward II., July 10th [1323].—Charter of Inspeximus and Confirmation of Charter of Inspeximus by Henry III. confirming the Charter given by Henry II. in confirmation of the Charter granted by Ranulph Earl of Chester.

Foundation of a Chantry in the Churches of the Holy Trinity and of St. Michael.

13 Edward III., January 17th [1340].—Letters Patent (in French), dated at Risyngs Castle by the Queen-Mother Isabella, of Licence to John de Holland, chaplain, John Lemman, John le Porter, Richard de Stoke, William de Welneburghe and others to acquire and hold lands, tenements and rents, &c., to the yearly value of twenty pounds in the Queen's lordship of Coventre, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, for the maintenance of a Chantry of six chaplains, to chant masses and other sacred services at the parochial churches of the Holy Trinity and St. Michael of Coventre, for the good estate in this life of the said Queen, and of her son the King, and of the Duke of Cornewaille, and for their souls when they shall have died, and also for the souls of the Queen Isabella's Lord Edward the late King of England, and the same Queen's dear son John late Earl of Cornewaille.

Licence for a Merchants' Guild.

14 Edward III., May 20th [1340].—Letters Patent of Licence to the men of Coventre and their successors to have a Merchants' Guild and a fraternity of brethren and sisters of the same Guild in the said town, and a Master or Keeper of the same Guild, &c.

Inspeximus of divers Charters.

15 Edward III., May 10th [1341].—Charter of Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Charter of Inspeximus by Edward II. of the Charter by Henry III. of Inspeximus of the Charter whereby Henry II. confirmed the Charter granted to the burgesses of Coventre by Ranulf Earl of Chester; With Inspeximus of a previous Charter by the present King Edward III., granting to the Merchants of Coventre, and to their heirs and successors being merchants of the same town, that they should be exempt for ever from toll, pannage, pontage, murage &c., in respect to their goods and merchandize throughout the said King's realm and dominion; With further concession to the burgesses and honest men of Coventre, that all Inquisitions made in the said town, before the King, his heirs, justices or ministers, or the justices or ministers of his heirs, respecting contracts, agreements, or trespasses made or to be made in the said town, or respecting lands and tenements within the same town, should and ought to be made by burgesses and men of the said town, and not by foreigners, so long as the matters to be enquired into touch neither the King nor the community of the said town.

Another Confirmation of the Earl of Chester's Charter.

15 Edward III., May 10th [1341].—The Inspeximus contained in the preceding charter, by itself, without the additional grant of privileges from Edw. III.

Foundation of the Guild of St. John the Baptist in the Churches of the H. Trinity and St. Michael.

16 Edward III., October 6th [1342].—Letters Patent of Licence to John Holand chaplain, John Lemman and four other persons to found and establish a fraternity and Guild in honour of St. John the Baptist in Coventre, and to hold lands tenements and rents, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, for creating and maintaining chantries of six chaplains, to celebrate daily in the parish churches of the Holy Trinity and St. Michael divine rites and services for the souls of the said King's ancestors, and for the health of the said King, his mother Queen Isabella, his consort Queen Philippa and his children, and Walter de Chesthunt and William de Belgrave whilst they shall be living, and for their souls when they shall be taken from this life, and for the welfare of the brethren and benefactors of the said Guild whilst they shall be living, and for their souls when they shall have died, and for the soul of the King's brother John de Eltham late Earl of Cornewall, and for the souls of all who have died in the Faith.

Foundation of St. Katherine's Guild.

17 Edward III., November 12th [1343].—Letters Patent of Licence to Thomas de Ichynton, Nicholas Pake, William de Tuttebury, William de Overton clerk, Peter Percy, Richard le Darkere, Simon Wareyn, John Vincent and John de Pakynton, to found a fraternity and Guild of themselves and others, brethren and sisters, in honour of St. Katherine at Coventre, and to find three chaplains who shall daily celebrate divine rites for the souls of the said King's progenitors, and for the welfare of the same King, his mother Queen Isabella, and his consort Queen Philippa and the children of the same King and Queen Consort, and of Robert de Sadyngton, Master John de Thoresby, John de St. Paul, William de Thorp, Richard de Smetheton and William de Burgh during their lives, and for the souls of the same when they shall have died, and for the aforesaid grantees and the brethren and sisters of the said Guild and their benefactors during their lives, and for their souls when they shall have died, and for the souls of all who have died in the Faith, in the chapel of St. Katherine in the church of the hospital of St. John the Baptist in Coventre; with licence to the brethren and sisters of the Guild to assemble yearly, to elect a Master or Keeper of the same Guild and the aforesaid chaplains.

Grant to the Guild of St. John the Baptist of Land for a Chapel.

18 Edward III., May 7th (1344).—Letters Patent (in French) dated by the Queen Mother Isabella at Risyngs, granting to the good people of the Guild of St. John the Baptist in the town of Coventre a piece of land called Babbelak in the said town, in order that they may there build a chapel in honour of God and St. John the Baptist, and have there two chaplains daily chanting masses and other divine services for the good estate of the said Queen's dear son the King, and of the said Queen Isabella, and of her dear daughter the Queen Philippa and of the Prince of Wales during their lives, and for their souls when they shall have died, and for the soul of the said Queen Isabella's dear Lord the late King of England, and for the soul of her dear son John the late Earl of Cornewaille, and for the lives and souls of the brethren of the same Guild.

Queen Isabella and the Manor of Cheylesmore.

18 Edward III., August 23rd (1344).—Letters Patent of Precept to archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, sheriffs, and others: declaring the said King's will that his mother the Queen Isabella may have and enjoy for the whole of her life all the liberties and privileges in the Manor of Cheylesmore heretofore granted to the said Queen for life, and set forth in these Letters Patent.

Privilege of Electing a Bailiff, granted by Queen Isabella to her People of Coventre.

18 Edward III., October 18th (1344).—Letters Patent dated at Kenynghale by the Queen Mother Isabella, Queen of England, &c.; granting to her good people of the town of Coventre, during her

pleasure and their good conduct, that they may elect from amongst themselves a Bailiff, who may yearly render loyal account of the issues and profits arising to her from the same town.

Charter of Privileges.

18 Edward III., January 20th (1345).—Charter of King Edward at the instance of his mother Isabella, to whom the Manor of Cheylesmore had been granted for life, and also in consideration of the King's first-born son the Prince of Wales, to whose hands the said manor would pass after the said Queen's death, granting that the men of Coventre, tenants of the said manor, may elect annually from amongst themselves a Mayor and fit Bailiffs, and have cognizance of all pleas as well of trespasses, contracts and agreements as of other things arising within the town, and may have a seal for taking recognizance of debts, according to the form of the Statute for Merchants; and also that the said town may have a prison for the correction of malefactors, and that the Mayor and Bailiffs for the time being shall have the custody of the same prison and of the prisoners committed to it.

Confirmation to Queen Isabella and the Prince of Wales of Liberties and Privileges, &c. in the Manor of Cheilesmore.

19 Edward III., June 16th (1345).—Charter of Edw. III. dated at the Tower of London; confirming to his mother the Queen Isabella and to the King's first-born son the Prince of Wales the King's previous concessions touching the Manor of Cheilesmore, to wit, that she during her life and the Prince of Wales after her death may, either by their own stewards or by the Mayor and bailiffs for the time being of Coventre, have cognizance of all pleas arising within the liberty of the said town, as well as those respecting lands, tenements, and rents as those respecting trespasses, agreements, contracts, &c., together with all other privileges and powers heretofore granted to the same Queen and Prince within the liberty of the said manor, in which Coventre is situated.

Confirmation of Privileges.

19 Edward III., December 3rd (1345).—Letters Patent in confirmation of the grant heretofore made by the King, at the instance and request of the Queen Mother Isabella, granting to the men of Coventre, being tenants of the Manor of Cheillesmore, that they may have and yearly elect from amongst themselves a fit Mayor and bailiffs for the said town, and in confirmation of divers other powers and privileges heretofore granted by the same King to the men of Coventre and their successors.

Confirmation of three Charters of Edward the Third.

19 Edward III., December 3rd (1345).—Letters Patent issued by the King, at the instance of the Queen Mother Isabella, to whom the Manor of Cheillesmore pertains for her life, in confirmation of previous charters granted by him to the said Queen and the men of Coventre, tenants of the said Manor, to wit, (1) a charter granting, with other things, that the men of Coventre may have a Mayor and bailiffs

(as under date of 20 Jan. 1345, *supra*), (2) a charter granting to the said Queen View of Frankpledge of the said Manor and town, with forfeitures of felons and fugitives within the said Manor, &c., and (3) a charter granting to the said Queen and all the men of her said Manor freedom from pannage, passage, stallage, tollage, &c., throughout the said King's whole realm, together with other concessions to the same Queen and the men of her said manor of Cheillesmore.

Acquittance of Coventre in respect to the Charges of Fifteen Armed Men.

20 Edward III., August 16th (1346).—Letters Patent of Acquittance in consideration of a sum of £5 paid by the town of Coventre into the Exchequer, for the charges of fifteen armed men about to cross to parts beyond sea in the King's service.

Grant by Queen Isabella of Land in Her Park of Cheylesmore.

21 Edward III., June 14th (1347).—Grant by the Queen Isabella, dated at Risyngs Castle, for the term of her life, of a rood of land with appurtenances in Coventre in her park of Cheylesmore, to Peter de Stoke, merchant of Coventre, at a yearly rent of five silver pence.

Foundation of the Corpus Christi Guild.

22 Edward III., May 26th (1348).—Letters Patent of the King granting licence to Robert Chandos, John de Wynwyck, clerk, and seventeen other grantees, to found a guild to the honour of the precious Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, with a chaplain to celebrate daily divine rites and services for the good estate of the said King and of the grantees, and of the brethren and sisters of the same Guild, during their lives, and for their souls when they shall have died. With License to the brethren and sisters to assemble yearly, in order to elect a Master and Chaplain for their said Guild.

Confirmation of Privileges granted by the Queen-Mother.

22 Edward III., July 17th (1348).—Inspeximus by the King, confirming the Letters Patent dated by the Prince of Wales on 12th March in the said year, of Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Letters Patent dated by the Queen Mother Isabella at the Castle of Rysyng on 12th February in the same year, whereby the said Queen approved the Charter of liberties and privileges, by which her son Edward III. granted at her instance, to the men of Coventre, being tenants of the Manor of Cheilesmore, together, with other powers, that they might elect yearly a Mayor and bailiffs from amongst themselves and whereby the said Queen granted for her life to the same men all the liberties, &c., which the same King conceded they should enjoy after her death; and also whereby the same Queen granted to the same that they might have during her life a market, a fair, and view of frankpledge in the said town: it being stipulated in the last-mentioned Letters Patent that, in consideration of the concessions made to them in the same Letters by the said Queen, the men of Coventre should pay to her yearly during her life, the sum of £50, in two equal portions at the feasts of Easter and St. Michael in each year.

Precept Touching the King's Pardon of Coventre.

36 Edward III., October 18th (1362).—Letters Patent (in French) of Precept addressed to all justices, sheriffs, bailiffs, &c., enjoining that the commons of the town of Coventre be in no way molested contrary to the Pardon granted to them by the King.

Foundation of the Guild of the Holy Trinity.

38 Edward III., March 23rd (1364).—Letters Patent of Licence to Henry Kele and Thomas Orme, to found a fraternity and Guild to the honour of the Holy Trinity, and to acquire and hold lands, tenements, and rents to the yearly value of ten marks within the liberty and lordship of Coventre, and to hold the same to themselves and the brethren and sisters of the said fraternity and Guild and their successors for ever, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, for the maintenance of two chaplains to celebrate divine rites daily in the church of the Holy Trinity of Coventre, for the good estate of the said King and his consort Philippa Queen of England and their children so long as they shall live, and for their souls when they shall have died, and for the souls of all the brethren and sisters of the said Guild and their benefactors and of all who have died in the Faith.

Confirmation by Richard II. of divers Charters.

1 Richard II., March 4 (1378).—Charter of Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Charter whereby Edward III. granted to the Merchants of Coventre and their successors to be free of toll, pannage, pontage, and murage, &c. With Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Charter granted by Edward III. (10 May 1341, *supra*) in confirmation of the Charter of Edward II., in confirmation of the Charter whereby Henry III. confirmed the Charter granted by Henry II., confirming the Charter given by Ranulph Earl of Chester to his burgesses of Coventre: With Inspeximus and Confirmation of other Charters of Edward III., conceding liberties, privileges, and powers to the burgesses of Coventre.

Confirmation of the Licence to Found the Guild of Corpus Christi.

4 Richard II., April 4th (1381).—Letters Patent of Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Letters Patent whereby Edward III., 26 May *an.* 22, granted Licence to Robert Chaundos, John de Wynwyk, clerk, and seventeen other persons to found a fraternity and Guild of themselves and other brethren and sisters, in honour of the precious Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ at Coventre, &c. (*ut supra*).

Ratification of a Grant of Land in Coventry.

8 Richard II., October 20th (1384).—Letters Patent in ratification of an indenture, whereby the Mayor, bailiffs, and chamberlains of Coventre on 26th December, 2 Rich. II. (1378) granted in fee-farm a piece of land in Coventre to Geoffrey Skartheburgh (*sic*) of Coventry and his wife Agnes, at a yearly rent of (—) shillings.

Licence to give Messuages, Land, and Rents to the Corpus Christi Guild.

16 Richard II., June 28th (1392).—Letters Patent, giving licence, in consideration of £50 paid to the King by the Guild of the precious Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ in Coventre, to John Scardeburgh (*sic*), John de Wedon, Richard Marshall, Adam Deyster, and Nicholas Dudley, of Coventre, to give to the Master, brethren, and sisters of the aforesaid Guild twenty-nine messuages, eight acres of land, eighteen denariates of rent and one half of a messuage in Coventre, to hold to the said Master brethren and sisters of the said Guild, and to their successors for ever, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, in order to find a chaplain to celebrate divine rites daily, and for doing certain other works of piety, at the ordinance of the said Master brethren and sisters.

Incorporation of Two Several Guilds into One Guild.

16 Richard II., June 30th (1392).—Letters Patent reciting the particulars of the foundation, &c. of the Guild of St. John the Baptist founded *temp.* Edward III., and of the Guild of the Holy Trinity founded in the same reign, and granting that the said two Guilds may be united in one Guild, under the name of "The Fraternity and Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. John the Baptist of Coventre," and further granting that the same Guild may have power to hold within Coventre and elsewhere lands, tenements, and rents, &c. to the yearly value of £86 13*s.* 4*d.*, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Licence to give Six Messuages to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Community.

16 Richard II., August 4th (1392).—Letters Patent granting, in consideration of £20 paid to the King by the Mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre, licence to William de Okham, John de Martondeyster, William Palmer and Thomas de Sutton, to give, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, six messuages with their appurtenances in Coventre to the aforesaid Mayor bailiffs and community for ever, and licence to the Mayor, bailiffs and community to hold the same for ever, in order to do and support certain works of piety at the ordinance of the said grantors.

Licence in Mortmain to the United Guilds.

16 Richard II., August 5th (1392).—Letters Patent of licence to Peter Percy, William Wolfe, Rolland Damet, Richard Verdon, Henry Kele, Adam Keresley, John Wedon and others and their heirs, or the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, St. Mary the Virgin and St. John the Baptist and their successors, to hold certain lands, tenements and rents, &c. for ever, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding; the said licence being granted to give effect to the King's previous licence to the Guild to acquire and hold lands and tenements &c., to the yearly value of £86 13*s.* 4*d.*

Commission for an Inquisition touching certain Gates, Bridges, and Profits.

22 Richard II., November 13th (1398).—Commission "ad quod damnum" to William Bage, steward of the King's manor of Cheylesmore, and to Guy Spyne the escheator of Warwick, to enquire whether it would be prejudicial to the King's interest or the interests of other persons, should he grant to the Mayor bailiffs and community of the town of Coventre and their successors all gates, bridges, and profits thereof, within the following bounds; to wit, from Jabotsasshe to the mill called Nassyngton Mill to the corner of the stone wall of the park of Cheilesmore, and thence by the same wall and the palings of the same park to Baronneswell, and thence to the house of John Yats of Dudemanneswell, and thence to the church and cemetery of St. Nicholas of Coventre, and thence to Bottecrosse, and thence to Harnehale Qwarele, and thence to Gosford Green.

Licence in Mortmain to the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c.

6 Henry IV., November 12th (1404).—Letters Patent granted by Henry Prince of Wales in consideration of £10 paid to him by the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist in Coventre, of licence to John Preston and William Whitchurch, both of Coventre, merchants, to grant four messuages, one toft, one garden and eleven acres of land in Coventre, and also the remainder of a messuage in Coventre which Agnes, formerly the wife of Thomas Brone late of Coventre, holds for the term of her life, to the Master brethren and sisters of the aforesaid Guild, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding, in aid of their livelihood and for the performance of certain works of piety according to the ordinance of the aforesaid John and William; with licence to the Guild to hold the aforesaid messuages.

Petition touching the Underground Aqueduct of the Prior and Convent of Coventre.

6 Henry IV., November 24th (1404).—Inspeximus and Exemplification of a Petition (in French), exhibited to the King in his parliament held at Coventre by the Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church of Coventre, setting forth the pains and charges with which the petitioners and their predecessors have brought water by an underground aqueduct to their priory, complaining of injuries done to their said aqueduct by malicious persons, who also hinder the petitioners when they would survey and repair the same conduit, and corrupt the water of the Shirburn that runs to the petitioners' mills; and praying that henceforth no one shall be suffered to injure the said conduit, or to hinder the petitioners from surveying and repairing it, or to corrupt the water of the Shirburn by throwing entrails of beasts, garbage or other filth into it, under a penalty of £10 to the King and treble damages for injury done in those respects to the petitioners.

No more Guilds to be created in Coventre.

8 Henry IV., November 18th (1406).—Letters Patent of the King to the mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre, granting that no more or other Guilds than those at present existing in Coventre shall ever exist within the said city.

Licence in Mortmain to the Guild of the Holy Trinity.

10 Henry IV., February 16th (1409).—Letters Patent, in consideration of fifty shillings paid to the King by the Guild of the Holy Trinity the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist in Coventre, of licence to William Broke parson of the church of Ladbroke and his brother John Broke, and John Barbour of Bishopychynton, to give a messuage with appurtenances in Coventre to the Master brethren and sisters of the said Guild; with licence to the same Master, &c., to hold the said messuage, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Grant to Thomas Porter, Valet of the Prince of Wales's Bedchamber.

13 Henry IV., December 1st (1411).—Letters Patent (in French) by Henry Prince of Wales, granting for life to Thomas Porter, valet of the said Prince's bedchamber, in consideration of his good service, a messuage of a hundred acres of arable land, twenty acres of meadow and an acre of wood, with the appurtenances, in Wodende called Ernesplace, which are held of the Prince, and have been seized into his hands because the Prior of Coventre purchased them and appropriated them without the said Prince's licence.

Confirmation of the Inhibition of more Guilds.

1 Henry V., March 8th (1414).—Inspeximus and confirmation of the Letters Patent whereby Henry IV. in his 8th year ordained that henceforth there should be no more or other Guilds within Coventre than those already existing.

Licence in Mortmain for the Mayor and Community of Coventre.

6 Henry V., June 10th (1418).—Letters Patent (in consideration of 40*l.* paid to the King by the Mayor and community of Coventre) of licence to John Leder, John Esterton, John Preston, Richard Southam, Lawrence Cook and William Dilcok, to give and grant for ever divers lands, tenements, and rents to the said mayor and community, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Order for suppressing the unlicensed Guild of St. Anne.

8 Henry V. (?), November 22nd (1420).—Mandate addressed to the Mayor and bailiffs of Coventre, upon information that a number of young men, being "journemen" servants of divers tailors and other artificers of the said city, have assembled and held and continue to assemble and hold meetings within the Priory of the said city and the houses of the brothers there under the name of St. Anne, which action on their part may work to injury of the Fraternities of the Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi within the same city; Requiring the said Mayor and bailiffs to make proclamations against the aforesaid unlawful assemblies, and to arrest all persons who shall disregard such proclamations, and to hold the same offenders in safe custody, until the King

shall make further orders in the matter, and to make return of the principal persons who have brought about the said unlawful assemblies.

N.B.—It deserves attention that the "Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John Baptist" is spoken of in this writ as simply the "fraternity of the Holy Trinity," the shortened form of description beginning now to come into general use.

Further Mandate touching the same Unlicensed Guild.

1 Henry VI. (?), March 8th (1423).—Mandate, addressed to the Mayor and bailiffs of Coventre, upon information that a number of young men, being journeymen tailors and other artificers of the said city have held and continue to hold assemblies within the Priory of Coventre, and in the houses of the brothers there, in order to maintain a guild under the name of St. Anne, to the prejudice of the Fraternities of the Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi, and to the injury of the whole community: Requiring thereupon the aforesaid Mayor and Bailiffs to make proclamations prohibiting the said unlawful assemblies, and to arrest all persons disregarding the same, and to hold them in custody till the King shall have ordered their enlargement.

Licence in Mortmain for the Mayor and Community in Relief of Taxes.

2 Henry VI. November 16th (1423).—Letters Patent of licence to William Babyngton and William Botener to give and assign for ever, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanting, to the Mayor and community of Coventre a messuage with appurtenances in Coventre, yielding thirteen shillings and four pence, to be held by the said Mayor and community in part satisfaction of a grant, made by the present King's father to the same Mayor and community, of licence to acquire lands and tenements, &c. to the yearly value of 40*l.*, within the said city and the precinct thereof, towards the support of the burdens of the same city: The aforementioned grant by Henry V. having been made in consideration of the heavy burdens sustained by the Mayor and community in respect to the murage of their city, and of the fact that they neither possess nor ever have possessed any means for sustaining the murage and other burdens, apart from collections imposed upon the poor folk of the same city to their manifest injury.

Order for suppressing the Unlicensed Guild of St. George of Coventre.

3 Henry VI., February 14th (1425).—Mandate, addressed to the Mayor, Keepers of the Peace and bailiffs of the city of Coventre, upon information that a number of youths and men, being servants of divers tailors and other artificers, working by the day and called "journeymen," of the said city, have combined and held meetings in the Chapel of St. George and elsewhere within the said city, and have presumed without the King's licence to make themselves into a Guild or fraternity named the Fraternity of St. George of Coventre, and intend to maintain the same fraternity with collections amongst themselves, and have elected and do maintain Masters, clerks and other officers, to the injury of the Guilds of the Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi, and of the whole community of the same city: Requiring thereupon the aforesaid

Mayor, Keepers of the Peace, and bailiffs to make proclamations ordering the offenders to desist from holding such meetings, and from maintaining the same unauthorized Guild of St. George or any like fraternities, and to arrest all persons who disregard the said proclamations, and to return the names of the principal offenders into the King's Chancery, in order that they may be punished according to their demerits.

Pardon to the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c.

3 Henry VI., September 12th (1424).—Pardon to William Dilcok the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist of Coventre, of all offences committed by them before the 8th day of December last past.

Further Licence in Mortmain for the Mayor and Community.

5 Henry VI., May 11th (1427).—Licence to the Mayor and Community of Coventry in consideration of the heavy burdens sustained by them in maintaining of the murage of their city, to hold lands, tenements and rents &c. to the yearly value of £40, in aid of the support of the said city, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Licence in Mortmain for the Guild of Corpus Christi.

18 Henry VI. (1439–40).—Licence to William Donyngton, John Michell and John Whiting chaplain, to grant to the Master and brethren of the Guild of our Lord Jesus Christ the reversion of four messuages, a mill and a piece of land whereon stands a chapel built in honour of St. George, of the yearly value of forty shillings, which Lawrence Cook and his wife Alice hold for their lives in survivorship; with licence to the Master and brethren of the said Guild to enter upon and hold the said messuages to themselves and their successors, on the death of the aforesaid Lawrence and Alice, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding; the said licence being granted to the said Guild in part satisfaction of the grant, whereby K. Richard II. gave licence to the Master and brethren of the Guild to acquire lands to the yearly value of eight marks, for finding a chaplain to celebrate divine rites daily.

Confirmation of Letters Patent forbidding the Creation of more Guilds.

19 Henry VI., January 25th (1441).—Inspeximus and Confirmation of the Letters Patent, dated by Henry V. in the first year of his reign, in confirmation of the Letters Patent, whereby Henry IV. in his 8th year granted to the Mayor, bailiffs and community of Coventre and their successors for ever, that no more or other Guilds than those at present existing in Coventre should ever be established or ordained within the said city.

Grant of an Eight Days' Market to Coventre.

20 Henry VI., July 7th (1442).—Inspeximus and Confirmation of Henry the Second's charter to the Burgesses of Coventre: with further

grant by Henry VI. to the Mayor bailiffs and community of licence to hold yearly a fair for eight days, beginning on the Friday next following the Feast of Corpus Christi, as freely as they have hitherto from ancient time held a yearly fair for one day, on the morrow of the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Pardon to the Guild of the Holy Trinity.

25 Henry VI., October 21st (1446).—General Pardon to the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Katherine the Virgin of Coventre, of all offences committed by them before the 9th day of April last past.

Pardon to the Mayor and Community of Coventre.

12 Edward IV., June 20th (1472).—Pardon to the Mayor, bailiffs and community of the City of Coventre of all offences committed by them before the last day of September last past.

Injunction forbidding Citizens to be retained by any Man unless in Necessary Service.

1 Henry VII., January 31st (1486).—Privy Seal Letters to the Mayor and Justices of the Peace of Coventre enjoining them to permit no citizen nor inhabitant of their city to be retained by any man except as "dwellyng servant or [in] his necessary office accordyng to our lawes and statutes therfore made and ordered."

Licence for Endowment of a Hospital in Bablake.

23 Henry VII., March 3rd [1508].—Letter Patent of licence to the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist and St. Katherine the Virgin of Coventre, to acquire and hold lands, tenements and rents, &c. in mortmain to the yearly value of £50, for the support of a chaplain to perform sacred services and obsequies, and the maintenance of twelve poor men and one woman, to offer prayers for the King's health while living, and for his soul when he shall have died, and for the good estate of the brethren and sisters of the aforesaid Guild while living and for their souls when they shall have died, and especially for the soul of Thomas Bonde, late of the city of Coventry, and for the souls of all who have died in the Faith, in a certain chapel and house in a place called Bablake in the aforesaid city, now newly built to the honour of the Holy Trinity.

Groats and Double Placks.

23 Henry VII., May 27th [1508].—Letters Patent addressed to the Sheriffs of the City of Coventre, embodying a Proclamation to be published at divers places of the said city and county thereof, to inform the people of the differences between English "grotes and double plackes" which are so clipt, worn, and diminished as not to be rated as good coin, and those "grotes and double plackes" which, although they be in some degree worn, defaced and diminished, are to be rated and accepted by the King's subjects as good and lawful English money.

Pardon to the Mayor and Community.

1 Henry VIII. [1509].—Letter Patent of a General Pardon granted to the Mayor, bailiffs and community of the city of Coventre, of all offences committed by them before the 23rd day of April last past.

Pardon to the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c.

1 Henry VIII., May 21st [1509].—Similar Pardon to the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist and St. Katherine the Virgin of Coventre, of all offences committed before the 23rd of April last past.

Grant to Ralph Swillyngton, Esquire.

14 Henry VIII., July 11th [1522].—Letters Patent of a grant for life to the King's well-beloved and faithful Ralph Swillyngton, Esquire, of the office of Steward of the King's lordship and manor of Cheilesmore in the county of the city of Coventre, and of all the King's manors, lands and tenements, &c., within the same county of the same city, and also of the office or offices of Master of the King's Park of Cheilesmore and of the venery of the same park, and Keeper of the King's woods within the same lordships, &c.

Promise of Repayment of Loans for the King's Wars against France and Scotland.

14 Henry VIII. October 3rd [1522].—Letters under the Privy Seal in which the King promises to repay to the lenders all the sums of money advanced by way of loan, for the maintenance of his wars against France and Scotland, by persons of the city of Coventre whose names are set forth in an indented schedule, and whose contributions of money amount in the whole to "oone thousand and nyne poundes thrytten shillinges four penys."

Another Promise to Repay Loans.

14 Henry VIII., November 17th (1522).—Privy Seal Letters promising to repay divers sums, amounting in the whole to £36 6*s.* 8*d.*, advanced by divers persons of Coventre (whose names are recorded in an annexed schedule) for the maintenance of the same wars.

A Third "Privy Seal" to the same Effect.

15 Henry VIII., May 19th (1523).—Privy Seal letters promising to repay numerous sums amounting in all to £150 11*s.* 0*d.* advanced by 194 persons of the city of Coventre and its precincts, to wit, persons "haveyng landes and tenementes from the value of xx*l.* to the yearly value of xx*s.*, and also that have moveable goodes frome the value of xx*l.* to the value of fyve poundes," whose names and sums are set forth in an annexed schedule.

This writ indicates that the poorer folk of Coventre were pressed for loans at this crisis towards the relief of the King's necessities.

Letters under the Great Seal to Levy Money.

16 Henry VIII., April 25th (1524).—Blank Letters of Commission under the Great Seal, appointing some person or persons to levy and gather the moneys granted by the King's loving subjects in Coventre "towards the recovery of" the King's "crown and realme of Fraunce and dyvers other domynyons and possessions . . . . rygtefully apperteigning within the same" to the said King.

For Punishment of Riotous Persons and Prevention of Riotous Assemblies.

17 Henry VIII., November 6th (1525).—Letters Patent of mandate addressed to the Mayor and Sheriffs and all right-minded persons of every degree and condition in Coventre, to take measures for arresting and bringing to punishment perverse and ill-disposed persons, who are set on renewing the riotous assemblies and disorderly routs in Coventre against the Mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the said city, that were recently suppressed by the punishment of divers persons, guilty of taking part in the disturbances.

Licence to the Guild of the Nativity of Jesus Christ to hold Land in Mortmain.

28 Henry VIII., May 10th (1536).—Inspeximus and confirmation of a Charter [stated in the present Letters Patent to have been dated by Henry V. in his seventeenth regnal year, by a curious mistake for Hen. VI.], granting licence to the Cutters and Fullers of the Guild founded to the honour of the Nativity of Jesus Christ in Coventre, to acquire lands, tenements and rents to the yearly value of ten marks, to find a chaplain to celebrate divine rites daily for the souls of the founders of the said Guild and for the souls of all who have died in the Faith; it being stated in the said Charter that the King Henry, who granted the Letters of licence, did so on the understanding that his progenitor Richard II. had in his time granted licence to the same Guild, to acquire and hold lands, &c. to the yearly value of eight marks.

N.B.—The curious error as to the date of the original Grant of Licence reappears in the Inspeximus of June 1st, 8 Elizabeth (as noticed in a later page of this catalogue) and seems also from that Inspeximus to have been found in Letters Patent of Edward VI. confirming the faulty charter.

Grant of the Reversion of certain Offices to John Hygford, Dapifer.

29 Henry VIII., March 11th [1538].—Letters Patent granting to John Hygford, one of the dapifers of the King's chamber, the office of Bailiff of the manor of Chellysmore in the county of the city of Coventre, and the Keepership of the same manor, and the place of Keeper of the park of Chellysmore, for the term of his life, from the time when the same offices shall become vacant by the death, retirement, or forfeiture of John Dyngley, one of the dapifers of the aforesaid chamber, to whom the same offices were granted for life by Letters Patent, dated 6th of February in the 15th year of the King's reign.

Lease of Orchards and Pools, late belonging to the Priory or Cathedral Church of Coventre.

31 Henry VIII., February 20th [1540].—Lease of twenty-one years at a yearly rent of £4 14*s.* 4*d.*, granted by the King to Henry Over, of an orchard called "le greate Orchard" containing eight acres, lying without the precinct of the late Priory or Cathedral Church in Coventre recently dissolved, and of another orchard called "la lytle orchard" containing two acres and a rood, late in the hands of the same Priory or Cathedral Church, and a piece of standing water called "the Swannss poole," containing an acre, and another piece of still water called "Newe Poole" containing an acre, which orchards and pools formerly belonged to the said late Priory or Cathedral Church.

Lease of Tenements and Lands to Hugh Wyatt of London, "Mynsterell."

33 Henry VIII., June 26th [1541].—Lease for twenty-one years, at a yearly rent of forty-one shillings and eight pence, granted by the King to Hugh Wyatt of London "mynsterell," of two tenements, two gardens, two orchards, two crofts of arable land and six acres of pasture in Stone, Wyken and Biggen in the county of the city of Coventre, called Biggencroft, &c. late belonging to the now dissolved Priory or Cathedral Church of Coventre.

Order for Payment of a Crown Rent.

34 Henry VIII., August 20th [1542].—Privy Seal, addressed to the "Chamberers" (*i.e.*, the Chamberlains) of the City of Coventre: commanding them in peremptory terms to pay forthwith to the Receiver of the "Revenues of thaugmentacions of our Crowne in our Countie of Warwick" under a penalty of £100 in case of further remissness, the sum of twelve shillings of arrears of the rent issuing from a tenement in Wellestret in Coventre.

Pardon to the City.

36 Henry VIII., February 12th [1545].—General Pardon to the Mayor, sheriffs, bailiffs and community of the City of Coventre.

Contribution in Aid of the King.

38 Henry VIII., May 16th [1546].—Letters Patent of Commission to John Hertford mayor of the City of Coventre, Sir George Throgmarton (*sic*) knt., and Sir Fulke . . . . knt.; appointing them to be commissioners to take steps for raising in the city of Coventre a contribution towards the aid of the King, in his need to resist his enemy, the King of the French.

Requisition for Payment of the Fee-Farm of Coventry and for Arrears of the same.

— Henry VIII.—Privy Seal letters to the Sheriffs of the City of Coventre: Requiring them, under a penalty of £500 in case of remissness on their part, to appear forthwith personally before Sir Robert Southwell, knt., and Bartholomew Westby, one of the Barons of the Exchequer to pay £200, due to the King for the fee-farm of the town of Coventre, and also to account for arrears.

Complaint by William Coke against Richard Marlowe.

— Henry VIII., July 9th.—Blank letters under the Privy Seal: Requiring certain persons (whose names are not filled in) to make enquiry touching the justice of the complaint of William Coke against one Richard Marlowe, set forth in accompanying Bill and Answer, and to certify the King and his Council of the truth of the matter.

Lease of the Little Park of Cheilsmore.

1 Edward VI., May 8th [1547].—Lease for twenty-one years, at a yearly rental of forty-four shillings, granted by the King to William Wightman, gentleman, of 'totum illud clausum terre nostrum vocatum *the little Park* . . . parcellam manerii de Chelismore . . . . quod quidem manerium est parcella terrarum et possessionum ducatus nostri Cornubie."

Grant of Bablacke Church to the Mayor and Community of Coventry.

2 Edward VI., December 13th (1548).—Letters Patent of the Grant made to the Mayor, bailiffs, and community of the City of Coventre, of the church of Bablacke in the said city, and of the campanile and cemetery of the said church, to have and to hold the same of the said King his heirs and successors for ever, by the service of one penny yearly, in free burgage: With further grant to the same of the issues, rents, revenues and profits of the same church, and of the bells, lead, iron, glass, jewels and ornaments belonging to it.

Lease to William Enderby.

6 Edward VI., March 10, [1552].—Lease for twenty-one years, from the King to William Enderby, at a yearly rent of fifty-three shillings and four pence, of a messuage and tenement in Earl Strete in the City of Coventre, late in the occupation of Alice Enderby and now in the tenure of William Enderby, and also of another messuage or tenement now in the tenure of William Herdy.

Grant in Fee Farm to the Mayor and Community of Messuages and Lands, &c., formerly belonging to Guilds and Chantries.

6 Edward VI., September 18th, [1552].—Letters Patent of a grant, made by the King in consideration of a payment of £1,315 1*s.* 8*d.*, in fee-farm for ever to the Mayor, bailiffs and community of the City of Coventre and their successors, of a large number of messuages, lands, tenements, and rents, &c., formerly belonging to the late Guilds of Corpus Christi and Holy Trinity of Coventre, and of messuages, tenements and rents, &c., formerly pertaining to divers Chantries in the same City, and of divers rents and moneys heretofore held in trust for the celebration of yearly Obits in Coventre or elsewhere, for the souls of deceased persons: to be held by the aforesaid Mayor, bailiffs, and their successors of the said King his heirs and successors as of the manor of Greenwich, co. Kent, at a yearly rent of £90.

Inspeximus of the Letters of Licence granted to the Guild of the Nativity of Jesus Christ.

1 Elizabeth, June 1st (1559).—Letters Patent of Inspeximus and Confirmation of Edward the Sixth's Inspeximus of the Letters Patent, whereby Henry VIII. in his 28th regnal year confirmed a Charter, giving licence to the Cutters and Fullers of the Guild of the Nativity of Jesus Christ in Coventre, to hold lands and tenements and rents to the yearly value of ten marks, in order to find a chaplain to celebrate divine rites daily for the souls of the founders of the said Guild, and for the souls of all who have died in the Faith.

N.B.—In these Letters Patent reappears the error found in the Letters of 10th March, 28 Henry VIII., describing the original Charter of Licence as a Charter of 17 Hen. V., instead of Hen. VI.

Manufacture and Monopoly of "Ulterfynes" and "Cromple Lysts."

10 Elizabeth, March 22nd (1568).—Letters Patent for the regulation and encouragement in Coventre of the manufacture of two sorts of woollen cloths commonly called Ulterfynes and Cromple Lysts, now usually made at Armentiers in Flaunders: It being granted by the Letters Patent, during pleasure, that no other person or persons than the Mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre, and such other persons in Coventre as are appointed by virtue of the same Letters Patent shall be allowed in England, or in any other of the Queen's dominions, to make or cause to be made "any of the said sort of clothes called Ulterfynes or Cromple lystes or any other Wollen Clothes lyke thereunto."

In connection with these Letters Patent there is an Indenture, made on the same day between the Queen of the one part and the Mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre of the other part, for the more precise regulation of the manufacture of and trade in the Ulterfyne or Utterfyne cloths and Cromple Lysts: containing orders for the breadth, length, weight and quality of the several pieces of the same cloth, and settling the penalties and punishments to be inflicted on manufacturers and dealers who disobey the orders.

Commission of Enquiry respecting Offences against the Laws for maintaining Horses, &c., and for taking Muster of able Men.

11 Elizabeth, July 18th (1569).—Commission, addressed to Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, Robert, Earl of Leycester, Sir Robert Throckmorton knt., Sir William Wigston knt., Sir Thomas Lucie knt., Sir William Devereux knt., and Clement Throckmorton and John Fisher of Pakington esquires, directing them to associate the Mayor of the City of Coventre for the time being with themselves, for the execution of a commission to enquire respecting all offences, committed since the 5th day of April last past against the laws for maintaining of horses and the provision of armour and weapons, and to take muster of the able men of Warwickshire.

Grant for the Reparation and Maintenance of Bablake Hospital.

14 Elizabeth, July 12th (1572).—Letters Patent granted at the request of Robert, Earl of Leicestre, for the reparation and maintenance of the Hospital of Bablake within the City of Coventrie, licensing the

Mayor bailiffs and community of the same city to acquire and hold for ever manors, messuages, lands and tenements to the yearly value of £100, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

Commission of Array for Mustering the Men of Arms of Coventry.

15 Elizabeth, April 24th (1573).—Commission of Array, appointing Robert Earl of Leicester, the Mayor of the city of Coventre for the time being, Sir Fulke Grevill knt., Sir William Wigston knt., Edward Eglionby esq., Thomas Rylay, Edward Dampard, Thomas Dudley, Richard Smythe and Henry Kirden, aldermen of the said city, to be Commissioners of Array, to muster and drill all the men-at-arms above sixteen years and under sixty years of age in the city of Coventre, as well horse as foot, archers and "sclopetarii" [*i.e.*, soldiers armed with arquebuses or carbines], and to instruct in military duty all the youths and men hitherto ignorant of military affairs in the said city.

Attached to this Latin commission appears in English, "a direccion for the Commissioners for the musters in the citie of Coventrie, how they shall proceed in the execution of the said Commission."

Inquisition "Post-mortem" of John Nethermyll.

17 Elizabeth, June 22nd (1575).—Inspeximus of certain Letters Patent, dated on 11th November 15th Elizabeth, of a commission to Edward Holte esq., Humfrey Ferrers esq., Edward Eglionby esq., and Arthur Gregory gentleman, the Queen's feodary in the county of Warwick, appointing them to enquire what lands and tenements John Nethermyll, late an alderman of the city of Coventre, held on the day of his death, and to return their inquisition into Chancery. With Inspeximus of the Inquisition, dated on 9th May, 17 Elizabeth, whereby the said commissioners certified that on the day of his death the said John Nethermyll was seized in his own demesne of the Manor of Eccleshale with its appurtenances in Eccleshale and Folleshill, co. Coventre, and also of four messuages, three hundred acres of arable land, one hundred acres of meadow, two hundred acres of pasture, four hundred of wood, and one hundred acres of scrub and briery, and of rents of £10 6*s.* in Eccleshale and Folleshull, now held, and which at the time of the said John Nethermylle's death were held of the Mayor bailiffs and community of the city of Coventre, as of the manor of Chellesmore, otherwise called their manor of Coventre, &c.

Commission of Array, &c.

19 Elizabeth, May 31st (1577).—Commission of Array addressed to Robert, Earl of Leicestre, the Mayor of Coventre for the time being, Sir Fulke Greville knt., Sir William Wigston baronet, Edward Egliambye (*sic*) esq., Thomas Ryley, Edward Damperd and Thomas Dudley, aldermen of the said city, to be Commissioners for mustering, arraying, inspecting and drilling, all the men at arms, horse and foot, archers and "sclopetarii" and all other able men within the city of Coventre.

Licence to Richard Butler to alienate a Messuage, &c.

40 Elizabeth, October 30th (1598).—Letters Patent of licence to Richard Butler, in consideration of thirty-three shillings and four pence paid by him, to sell to John Stapleton esq., a messuage with a dovecote, a garden, an orchard, . . . , acres of pasture, an acre of wood and two acres of arable land, &c. in the city and county of the city of Coventre.

GRANT OF THE ALMSHOUSE IN BABLACKE TO TRUSTEES.

7 James I., July 15th (1609).—Letters Patent of a grant for ever by James the First (made in consideration of payment of £100) to Edward Stapleton esq., Henry Sewall of Coventrie, draper, and Humfrey Wightwick of the same city, grocer, and their heirs and assigns, of the Almshouse in Bablacke built by Thomas Bonde and the chapel and chamber adjoining the same Almshouse, and of a close of pasture called Hickfield in Coundon co. Warwick, and of lands, tenements and rents &c. in Old Fillonghley, New Fillonghley. Alspade and Merelbrookes co. Warwick, and of a messuage called the Moat House in Spoonestreete (*sic*) in Coventrie, and of divers other lands and tenements &c. in Coventrie and elsewhere.

COMMISSION FOR RAISING A LOAN.

2 Charles I., October 11th (1626).—Commission for raising a loan for the King in the city and county of Coventre: appointing William Earl of Northampton, Robert Earl of Monmouth, Foulke Lord Brooke, and the Mayor and aldermen of the said city to be Commissioners for the said purpose.

COMMISSION FOR LEVYING A PROPORTION OF THE MONEY VOTED BY PARLIAMENT.

18 Charles I., April 4th (1642).—Commission appointing the Mayor of Coventre for the time being, and Henry Million, John Clarke, Thomas Ward, William Jeffyn and John Baker, aldermen of the said city, and John Hales and Richard Greene esquires, and Thomas Basnettt, to be commissioners for levying a proportion of the money voted by the present Parliament by an annexed Statute, entitled "An Act for the raiseing and levyinge of moneyes for the necessary defence and great affaires of the kingdomes of England and Ireland and for the payment of debt undertaken by the Parliament"; and further requiring the Sheriffs of the said city and county to aid the said Commissioners in executing their commission.

LETTERS PATENT FOR THE RE-CONSTITUTION OF THE CORPORATION, AND FOR THE CONFIRMATION OF THE ANCIENT CHARTERS.

15 Charles II., July 6th (1663).—Letters Patent to the Mayor bailiffs and community of the city and county of Coventre, for the re-constitution of the Corporation; With Inspeximus and Confirmation of charters granted by previous sovereigns, to wit, James I., Elizabeth, Mary, Edward VI., Henry VIII., Henry VII., Edward IV., Henry VI., Henry IV., Richard II., Edward III., Edward II., Henry III., and Henry II.

ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY'S BETTER GOVERNMENT.

35 Charles II., October 31st (1683).—Letters Patent of concessions and ordinances made by King Charles the Second, for the better government of the Borough and City of Coventre.

III.—*Miscellaneous Documents, to wit, Grants, Leases, Agreements, Awards of Arbitrators, Wills, Bonds, &c. to the number of* 6,265.

On taking my first view of the Coventry Muniments in February 1895, I found the multifarious writings of this most numerous group

lying with the Charters and Letters Patent in such confusion that, for the performance of the laborious task of reducing the manuscripts to order at the charges of the Corporation, it was necessary for me to open and examine cursorily each document. And whilst I did this part of the work for which the Corporation had invited me to Coventry, I withdrew 232 writings, to each of which I attached a descriptive label, for the convenience of persons visiting the New Muniment Room of St. Mary's Hall, in which I had undertaken to place in due arrangement the entire collection. Some of these labelled writings were selected out of regard to the excellencies or peculiarities of their penmanship; but excepting these few, the 232 selected deeds consist of writings that illustrate the social conditions of their periods, or are remarkable for the names of persons or places, or afford particulars likely to interest antiquaries or historical enquirers.

At the same time I withdraw from the mass fifty-five Indentures of Apprenticeship, the earliest of them being a remarkable and curious Latin indenture of Richard the Second's time, and put them away in a single packet in a drawer of Miscellaneous Matters.

The other 5,953 deeds, being for the most part conveyances or leases, I put away in labelled packets, each containing ten deeds. How many of these are dateless deeds of the time of Henry III. and Edward I., and how many were dated and sealed in each reign from that of Edward the First to that of her present Majesty, may be learned from the following table :—

			No. of Deeds.
(1)	Dateless Deeds,	*temp.* Henry III. and Edward I.	490
(2)	Deeds with Dates,	*temp.* Edward I.	176
(3)	„ „	*temp.* Edward II.	405
(4)	„ „	*temp.* Edward III.	1,518
(5)	„ „	*temp.* Richard II.	341
(6)	„ „	*temp.* Henry IV.	163
(7)	„ „	*temp.* Henry V.	102
(8)	„ „	*temp.* Henry VI.	309
(9)	„ „	*temp* Edward IV.	159
(10)	„ „	*temp.* Richard III.	20
(11)	„ „	*temp.* Henry VII.	130
(12)	„ „	*temp.* Henry VIII.	175
(13)	„ „	*temp.* Edward VI.	32
(14)	„ „	*temp.* Mary, and Philip and Mary	41
(15)	„ „	*temp.* Elizabeth	278
(16)	„ „	*temp.* James I.	241
(17)	„ „	*temp.* Charles I.	479
(18)	„ „	*temp.* Commonwealth	184
(19)	„ „	*temp.* Charles II.	268
(20)	„ „	*temp.* James II.	33
(21)	„ „	*temp.* William and Mary	48
(22)	„ „	*temp.* William III.	56
(23)	„ „	*temp.* Anne	63
(24)	„ „	*temp.* George I.	5
(25)	„ „	*temp.* George II.	22
(26)	„ „	*temp.* George III.	166
(27)	„ „	*temp.* George IV.	6
(28)	„ „	*temp.* William IV.	20
(29)	„ „	*temp.* Victoria	23
			5,953

As this Report deals only with manuscripts now lying in the New Muniment Room, it says nothing of the Deeds of the seventeenth and two later centuries that are preserved in the Town Clerk's office.

Of the quality and historical value of the older Deeds, from the middle of the thirteenth century to the close of Charles the Second's time, readers may form a fairly correct estimate from the ensuing entries.

Land held by "The Knave."

Deed of sale and quitclaim by Vincent the son of Reginald Kempe to Robert the son of Roger de Cornlegh of a rent of twelve pence, which William Le Knave used to pay yearly to the said Vincent, from land which he held of the same Vincent. No date.

Grant of a Meadow in Spanne Field.

Grant for ever, by Adam Haldeyn to John le Lodelawe, of a yearly rent of four pence issuing from a shop in Coventre, and of a meadow in Spanne Field, at a yearly rent to the grantor and his heirs of a clove. No date.

N.B.—The place-name "Spanne" is variously spelt in the deeds *temp.* Henry III. and Edward I., *e.g.* Spon, Sponnd, Spound, Sponn, Spoon.

Grant of Land to John, Son of William the Painter, on his Marriage.

Gift for ever, at a yearly rent of a pair of gloves "de precio unius oboli," by Walter the son of Atherard the Painter of Coventre to John the son of William the Painter "in liberum maritagium cum Wymarkia filia Galfridi zonarii," of a piece of land in the street of Cheylismor in Coventre. No date.

"Upper Park Street" or "Upper Street of the Park."

Gift for ever of a messuage in Upper Park Street ("in superiori vico parci de Coventre") by Christiana de Milnehale in her virginity and lawful power to Geoffrey Le Luffe of Coventre. No date.

Gift to the Priory of Coventry.

Gift in almoigne for ever by Walter the son of Symon the clerk of Sowe to William the Prior of Coventre and the monks serving God there of a meadow within and without the fosse in the town of Sowe. No date.

The Meadow called "Enedemedwe."

Gift for ever of a meadow called "Enedemedewe" in Coventre by Robert Le Bussenville to John de Hwttele. No date.

A Marriage Portion in Sponne Street.

Gift, by way of a marriage portion, of a piece of land in Sponne Street in Coventre, to Matilda the daughter of Elias Le Waffrer and her affianced husband, Thomas the son of Thomas the mason of Coventre, and their issue, by William the Chaplain (son of Roger Le Waffrer of Coventre), uncle of the aforesaid Matilda. No date.

Quitclaim to Land in Coventre.

Deed of quitclaim, in respect to a piece of land in Coventre, by Matilda, formerly the wife of Henry Beket, in her pure widowhood, to John de Wytele, cook. No date.

Obligation of Symon Chatel to the Prior and Convent for View of Frankpledge.

Undertaking by Symon Chatel of Cundelin, that, in consideration of a grant of certain land in the town of Cundeline made to him and his heirs or assigns by Prior and Conventt of Coventre, at a yearly rent of forty silver pence, he and his heirs or assigns shall make two journeys in each year to the church of the Prior and Convent, for view of frankpledge. No date.

Grant in Frank-Almoigne to the Prior and Convent.

Grant in pure and perpetual almoigne by William Le Scot to the Lord William the Prior of Coventre and to the Convent of the same place and their successors, for the health of the grantor's soul and of the souls of his grandfather Robert Scot and his father Ralph Scot, of land in Aylwardesick near Whytemor and of lands and rents in Coventre. No date.

Quitclaim to a Messuage in Little Park Street.

Deed of quitclaim, in consideration of a payment of twenty shillings, by Roger de Burtigbury to Alexander the Vintner of Coventre, in respect to a messuage between "Littleparkstreth" on the one part and the land of Richard Le Coup on the other part. No date.

Grant of a Croft to the Vicar of St. Michael's.

Acknowledgment by Richard de Willowe, vicar of the church of St. Michael of Coventre, that he and his successors have received of the Prior and Convent of Coventre a grant in fee-farm in Kundeline for ever, at a yearly rent of two shillings. No date.

Gift of 7 Sellions of Land "in le Hokemilfeld."

Gift of seven sellions of land in Stoke "in le Hokemilfeld", and of a yearly rent of eleven pence issuing from a tenement and messuage in Coventre, by William Blaunchinal to Robert de Stokes and his heirs for ever. No date.

Proviso against giving certain Land to a Religious House.

Gift of a toft and an acre of arable land in the territory of Sponn, by Alice the daughter of William de Sponn to Symon de Lymeseye and his heirs, and to any to whom he may assign the same "preterquam domui religiose." No date.

Quitclaim of a Messuage and Land in Whitley.

Quitclaim, in consideration of a payment of half a mark, in respect to a messuage in Whitele and ten acres of arable land in the fields of Whitele, by Roger the son of Ormus to his brother Adam and the heirs of the same Adam. No date.

Park Street in Covintre.

Sale and quitclaim of certain land in Park Street in Covintre (*sic*) by William Blod to Richard de Bluke and his heirs and assigns for ever. No date.

While noticeable in Earl Ranulph's Charter, and in Henry the Second's Charter of Confirmation, to the burgesses of Covintre, this use of "i" in the spelling of the name of the borough appears also occasionally in the deeds *temp.* Henry III. and Edward I.

Yearly Rent of a Clove.

Gift in perpetual fee-farm by Robert de Lodelowe to Alexander the Vintner of Coventre and his heirs, at a yearly rent of a clove, of a meadow in Coventre near the mills called "the Altegeder Milnys." No date.

Deeds in the time of Henry III. and Edward I. often contain a stipulation for this nominal rent, the equivalent of the familiar "pepper-corn" rent in other parts of the country.

Sir Thomas Arderne, Knt., and Master Guy de Tyllebrok.

Gift by Sir Thomas Arderne, knt., "dominus de Rottel," of all his rents in Stoke, Radeford, Cundoline, and Coventre, with all the homages and services thereto appertaining, to Master Guy de Tyllebrok and his heirs for ever. No date.

Coventre Cloth-Market.

Gift by Robert de Eton to his daughter Felicia, of a piece of land with a building upon it in the Market of Coventre, where cloth is sold. No date.

Gift in Frankalmoigne to the Priory.

Gift in perpetual almoigne of two shillings of yearly rent, issuing from lands in Cundeline and Crowenhull, by Richard the Burser of Coventre to the monks there serving God, and especially to their Refectorarius. No date.

Lady Agnes Hauberch of Schaldeforde.

Gift of lands and tenements, rents and reversions, &c. in the town and fields of Coventre, by Thomas de Leghtoun of Coventre to the Lady Agnes Hauberch of Schaldeforde. No date.

Gosford Street in "Covintre."

Gift of a piece of land in Gosford Street in Covintre, by Reginald de Catisby, burgess of Covintre, to his son Symon and his heirs. No date.

Thomas the Weaver of Coventre.

Gift of a piece of land with a building upon it in Sponne Street in Coventre, by Henry the son of Thomas the Weaver of Coventre to Beatrice the daughter of Adam de Kiderminster, the grantor's sister. No date.

Quitclaim to Land and Houses in Earl's Street.

Quitclaim in respect to certain land with houses upon it in Earl's Street in Coventre, by Margery the widow of Ralph le Turner of Gloucester to Henry the Baker and Adam Russel and their respective wives Agnes and Alice. No date.

A Stall in Coventre Market.

Gift of a stall with its appurtenances in the Market of Coventre, by Simon le Botmonger to Richard de Fonte, at yearly rents of a clove to the grantor and of nine silver pence to the High Altar of the Blessed Mary of Coventre. No date.

Margery Pake, Niece of Master Richard the Vintner.

Gift by the widow Margery Pake, formerly the wife of Pagan Pake of Coventre to her son William, his heirs and assigns, of certain tenements in Coventre, which descended to the said Margery by inheritance, on the death of her uncle Master Richard the Vintner. No date.

Peter de Blocksley's Gift to the Prior and Convent of Coventre.

Gift in perpetual almoigne, for the health of the grantor's soul and the welfare of the souls of his ancestors and heirs, of a messuage and divers lands and tenements in Sowe with all things appertaining unto them, by Peter de Blocksley, clerk, to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Coventre and to Henry the Prior of the said place, and the Monks serving God there. No date. Also, a duplicate of the same deed.

Another Gift by the same Grantor to the Prior and Convent.

Gift in pure almoigne, for the welfare of the grantor's soul and of the souls of his ancestors, of a messuage and piece of land outside the town of Coventre, and a piece of land in the moor of Wytemor, by Peter

the son of Gilbert de Blockeley to God and the Blessed Mary of Coventre, and to Henry the Prior, and the Monks there serving God. No date.

Gift to Symon Pymme in Marriage Dowry.

Gift by William son of Hugh "Cocarius" of Coventre, of two shops in the Earl's Street towards Goseford to Symon Pymme upon his marriage with the grantor's sister Alice, a yearly rent of twelve silver pence being reserved to the grantor and his heiress. No date.

Alice Gardiner's Quitclaim to Dower in Land.

Quitclaim, made in her pure widowhood by Alice formerly the wife of Roger Gardiner of Coventre, to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Coventre, and to the Prior and Monks there serving God, in respect to her dower in lands in the territory of Harnhal formerly pertaining to her said husband, and also in respect to rents in Coventre which he sold to the said Prior and Monks. No date.

Marriage Portion in Land and Houses in Earl's Street.

Gift made by Richard le Brochere of Coventre of a piece of land with houses upon it in the Earl's Street, extending from the King's highway to the Castle Ditch ("extendit se a Via Regia usque ad fossatum quod vocatur le Casteldich"), and of a curtilage, to John de Rydewale on his marriage with the grantor's daughter Margery, to have and to hold to the same John and Margery, and their lawfully begotten heirs. No date.

Grant by Philip de Winchecumb to the Prior and Convent.

Grant in pure almoigne, for the welfare of the grantor's soul and of the souls of his wife and ancestors and successors, of a messuage at Spann ("ad Spannam") in Coventre, with its buildings, garden, dovehouse and curtilage, and of a croft above the garden called "Stathers-croft," and of another croft called "Christescroft," extending from the aforementioned croft to "Dedebone," and of eight "seyliones" of arable land in the field of Spanne and of five other "seyliones" in the same field, and of an enclosed meadow in the same field, and of the meadow which the grantor bought of William Payn, with an annexed place which the grantor had of the Prior of Coventre, and of the oven which the grantor bought of Richard de Wygorn' in "Cheilesmor Lona," with its buildings, rents, and appurtenances, by Philip de Winchecumb to God and the church of the Blessed Mary of Coventre, and to William the Prior and the convent of the same place. No date.

Bailiffs of the Earl and the Prior.

41 Henry III. [1256–7].—Gift by William the son of Robert le Redeknave of Coventre to Richard the son of William the Weaver, of a piece of land with a house upon it in the Bishop's Street in Coventre, which land Hawisia, formerly the wife of Adam Le Redeknave, held of the grantor in the name of dower: the witnesses of the deed being Richard de Bokvill then bailiff "ex parte Comitis," William Lewin

the bailiff "ex parte Prioris," John Lysner, Richard de Fonte, Roger the Miller, ['Molendarius,'] Alexander de Glovernia, John le Blund, John Yngeram, Hugh le Bretun clerk, and others.

Other deeds of the same period point to the fact that there were two bailiffs in Coventre *temp.* Henry III., one of whom acted for the Earl and was styled the Earl's bailiff, whilst the other acted in the Prior's interest and was designated the Prior's bailiff.

John Holoway, Miller.

25 Edward I. [1297].—Gift of a piece of land with its appurtenances in the Lesser Park Street in Coventre, by John Holoway the Miller to John le Wedon the Brewer: with seal.

Release of Eighty Sellions of Land.

25 Edward I. [1297].—Release and quitclaim, in respect to eighty "selliones" of land in Stokes in "le Hokenylefelt," by Isabel the widow of William Blanchynal of Stokes to Robert de Stokes and his wife Joan.

Joan Corvyn, Heiress of Philip of Barbedaveryl.

27 Edward I. [1299].—Grant for lives in survivorship by Joan formerly the wife of John Corvyn of Stokes to Robert de Stokes and his wife Joan, of divers rents and services issuing from tenements in Coventre, and also of liberties, commodities and easements which the grantor has, had, or was able to have, in Coventre, after the death of her ancester, Philip of Barbedaveryl.

Land Adjoining "Gardiner's Croft."

28 Edward I. [1300].—Quitclaim by Margery the daughter of Robert Herbert of Coventre in her pure widowhood to John de Hales of Coventre, dyer, and his wife Margaret, in respect to a piece of land lying near the highway, leading from Coventre towards Harnhale "inter terram hospitalis Sancti Johannis de Coventre et terram Johannis le Gannter ex una parte et terram domini Prioris et Conventus de Coventre que vocatur Gardinerescroft."

William the Glass-Worker.

30 Edward I. [1302].—Gift of a piece of land in the Greater Park Street of Coventre, by William "le Glawrihte" to Hugh de Meryton.

Fields of Podycroft and Schocherefeld.

32 Edward I. [1304].—Gift of certain lands in the fields called Podycroft and Schocherefeld in Coventre, and three yearly rents issuing from as many tenements in Coventre, by Alice formerly the wife of Henry de Alecote, in her pure widowhood, to John de Langbenc and Henry de Raynyrs of Coventre, merchants.

Quitclaim to the Prior and Convent.

1306.—Quitclaim by Alice, the widow of the late John de Chylton of Coventre, to Henry the Prior and the Convent of Coventre, in respect to any right or claim she may have by way of dower in a tenement called "Benfirlond."

Grant by Peter de Blockley to the Convent and Sacristan of Coventre.

35 Edward I. [1306-7].—Grant in perpetual almoigne of the grantor's third part of Wodenmilnebeye, with his meadow in Wykene, and his twelve denariates of yearly rent issuing from a virgate of land in the territory of Coventre towards Cunduline, by Peter de Blockels to Henry the Prior and the Convent of the Church of St. Mary of Coventre, and especially to the Sacristan of the said Church.

Benedict the Cutler of Coventre.

2 Edward II. [1308–9].—Quitclaim in respect to a yearly rent of twelve pence, issuing from a tenement in the Greater Park Street in Coventre, by Alice the daughter of Benedict "le Cotiler" of Coventre, formerly the wife of John de Todenham, to John de Ricon, &c.

Poultry Street towards the Gate of the Priory.

3 Edward II. [1309–10].—Quitclaim by John the son of John le Bolyngere to Peter Barun of Coventre, in respect to a messuage in Coventre, lying "in vico ubi pulteria venditur versus portam Prioratus."

Yearly Rent of a Rose.

7 Edward II. [1313–14].—Lease for lives in survivorship, by John de Wyteley of Radeford to Richard le Couper of Coventre, butcher, and his wife Alice, of a pasture called Enedmere in the territory of Radeford, at a yearly rent of a rose for sixteen years, and afterwards at a yearly rent of forty shillings.

Rose-rents are mentioned less often in Coventry Leases and grants than one would expect them to be in the deeds of a place so near Leicester, where they are so numerous.

Another Deed by William the Glass-Worker.

9 Edward II. [1315–16].—Gift of a messuage in the Greater Park Street of Coventre, by William "Le Glasrugthe" and Emma his wife to Roger de Bray and his wife Emma. [*See below*, 17 Edw II.].

Agreement touching a Rent and a Tenement.

10 Edward II. [1316–7].—Agreement between Robert de London of Coventre, chaplain, Roger Dayseye and his wife Matilda of the one part, and Walter de Norton of Coventre, cook, and his wife Amice, and Richard the first-born son of the same Walter, of the other part: whereby the said Robert, Roger and Matilda granted and conveyed

for life in survivorship to the said Walter, Amice and Richard an annual rent of ten shillings and sixpence from a tenement in Cheilesmorlane in Coventre, and also a lease of the same tenement, from and after the death of Richard de Wygorn' chaplain, who holds the said tenement for his life.

Lease with no Rent for Eight Years.

10 Edward II. [1316-7].—Lease for life of a croft in Bobynhul, lying between the highway and the garden of the rector of the church of Bobynhul, by Richard Quocus (*sic*) of Bobynhul to John de Lyndeseye of Bobynhul, to hold free of rent for eight years, and afterwards at a yearly rental of forty shillings.

Lease for Life or for Ten Years.

10 Edward II. [1316–7].—Lease for life or for ten years, of a messuage in the Greater Park Street of Coventre, by Henry de Mariton to Dionisia, formerly the wife of Philip de Barsham of Coventre: with a proviso that, should the said Dionisia die within ten years, her heirs and assigns may hold the said messuage till the end of the said term of ten years.

Four "Seliones" and One "Forera" of Arable Land.

14 Edward II. [1320-1].—Gift of four "seliones" of arable land with one "forera" and a meadow, by Henry the son of the late Richard Anneys of Coundelin to John de Edynghal of Coventre, cook.

Roger de Bray of Coventre.

17 Edward II. [1323–4].—Gift of a messuage in the Greater Park Street of Coventre by Roger de Bray to William de Leycestre, both of Coventre.

Friars Lane and Cheilesmore Lane.

17 Edward II. [1323–4].—Gift of lands and tenements, rents and reversions in "le Frerelone in Coventre," lying between the King's highway leading to "Cheylesmor grene" on the one part, and the land that formerly belonged to Master Richard of the Hall on the other part, by Richard de St. James of Coventre to Adam le Sadelere of Coventre and his wife Alice.

Lease of Priory Waste-Land, long afterwards called "Bagot's Waste."

1 Edward III. [1327].—Lease for lives in survivorship of an acre of waste land in the fields of Sowe, at a yearly rent of twelve pence, by Henry the Prior and convent of the cathedral church of Coventre to Thomas Bagot, his wife Petronilla and their daughters Katherine and Elizabeth.

Long known by the surname of the grantees under this lease, this piece of land figures amongst the Church lands of Coventre even in post-reformation time under the designation of "Bagot's Waste."

Agreement for sustaining a Party-wall and making and repairing a Gutter.

3 Edward III. [1329].—Agreement between Isolda formerly the wife of William de Grantham, in her widowhood, of the one part, and Margery Tynal of Coventre, in her virginity, of the other part, they being owners and occupiers of adjoining tenements in the Lesser Park Street in Coventre ("tenementa . . . . annexa in Minori Vico parci Coventre"): by which the said Margery undertook for herself, her heirs and assigns, to sustain the party-wall dividing the two tenements for ever, and the said Isolda undertook for herself, her heirs and assigns, to put a sufficient gutter above the same wall and to cleanse and repair the same as occasion should require.

Grant by the Prior and Convent to two Chaplains in St. Mary's Church.

4 Edward III. [1330].—Grant of a piece of land in Sponne Street in Coventre, at a yearly rent of two shillings, by Henry de Leycestre, Prior of the cathedral church of the Blessed Mary of Coventre and the Convent of the same, to Peter de Ruyton and Rowland de Bredon, chaplains, about to celebrate divine services in the nave of the said church.

Lease for Sixteen Years or for Life.

5 Edward III. [1331].—Lease for sixteen years or for life at a yearly rent of forty shillings, of a tenement lying beyond the bridges of Gosford in Coventre by Alice, daughter of the late Margaret who was wife of Richard Le Northerne of Coventre, in her widowhood, to Ralph Byllyng of Coventre.

Grant of a Corrody to Richard le Spicer by his Son.

6 Edward III. [1332].—Agreement whereby Henry Le Spicer and his wife Mary grant to Richard Le Spicer, father of the said Henry, a yearly rent of fifty shillings issuing from a tenement in Smytheford Street in Coventre, and further grant to the same Richard for his life a sufficiency of meat and drink at his own table like that provided for the grantors, and a fit place for his bed in the same grantors' own tenement, and fit clothes for the same bed, and a robe of fit cloth to be received by him yearly at St. Andrew's Feast with fit fur for an over-tunic, and in every second year a winter coat with a cap and suitable fur at the Feast of St. Michael, and a summer over-tunic at the Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, and also a yearly livery of two pairs of linen clothes and four pairs of list shoes, and six pairs of shoes.

Grant of a Corrody for Life in the Priory of Coventre to Alice the Wife of Thomas de Radewey.

1335.—Agreement between Henry the Prior and the Convent of the cathedral church of Coventre of the one part, and Thomas de Radewey of Keresleye and his wife Alice, formerly the wife of Roger Locard, of the other part: whereby the said Thomas and Alice give to the said Prior and Convent certain lands &c., in the towns of Coventre,

Coundeline and Radeford, and the said Prior and Convent grant in return to the said Alice for her life a corrody in their priory, viz., to receive daily "unum panem album qui vocatur Michs et unam lagenam cerevisie conventualis," &c., and also grant to her a place of abode in a cottage with a curtilage in St. Nicholas Street.

Lease by Robert de Stoke to his Mother.

9 Edward III. [1335].—Lease by Robert de Stoke to his mother for the term of her life of his manor of Stoke, and of his meadows, pastures, rents &c. in Stoke, Coventre, Sowe, Harenhal, Styvechal, Pinnele and Radeford.

Richard de Somerby, Rector of Berkeswell.

14 Edward III. [1340].—Gift of a messuage in Spanne-strete in Coventre, by William de Kendale of Coventre, sadelere, to *dominus* Richard de Somerby, rector of the church of Berkeswell.

Rent of a Rose.

14 Edward III. [1340].—Lease for life, at the yearly rent of a rose-flower, of a tenement near Lodeloweslane in Coventre, by Jordan de Shepei and Henry de Dodenhale to Thomas de Merston of Coventre, baker.

Hugh the Son of Nicholas the Mason.

17 Edward III. [1343].—Quit claim, by Jordan de Shepye and Henry de Bodenhale of Coventre to Hugh the son of Nicholas le Masoun of Lemynton, in respect to twenty shillings of rent issuing from a messuage in the Frerelane in Coventre.

Conveyance to Thomas de Appach and William de Lalleford, Chaplains, and Another.

17 Edward III. [1343].—Gift, by Alice formerly the wife of Thomas in "le Hurne" in Coventre and by Thomas her son and by Emma the wife of the said Thomas, to Thomas de Appach and William de Lalleford, chaplains, and Philip del Pakes of Coventre, of a messuage with bakehouse in Spannestret in Coventre, and a wood in Whalburley near Coventre, with eight acres of arable land, and a place called Folewell in the territory of the same town, a croft near the highway leading to Alleysleye, three selions of arable land in Condulin, and an acre of meadow one half of which lies at Dodemanswell.

Agreement between Holders of adjacent Houses for making Gutters and repairing Walls.

19 Edward III. [1345].—Covenant between William Gatsys of the one part and Robert de Boresworth of Coventre, merchant, of the other part, whereby, in consideration of the said William's intention to rebuild his tenement and extend the same up to the tenement of the aforesaid Robert, the said Robert agrees that the said William may construct sufficient gutters for carrying off the water from the roofs of the adjoin-

ing tenements, and the aforesaid William agrees that so often as the walls and gutters between the tenements shall be broken or out of repair, to the injury of the said Robert's tenement, it shall be lawful for Robert and his heirs and assigns to enter the tenement of the said William Gatsys, into whosoever hands it may have come, and to distrain thereupon for the repair of the said walls and gutters.

Lease of a Messuage with Cellars in Earl's Street.

23 Edward III. [1349].—Lease for life, at a yearly rent of eight marks, of a messuage with cellars and a shop and other buildings with their curtilages and appurtenances in Earl's Street in Coventre, by John de Langleye and Alice, formerly the wife of Thomas de Colleshull, to John de Deneforde.

Grant of Land in Friars' Lane.

25 Edward III. [1351].—Gift in fee-farm of a piece of land in the lane of the Friars Minors of Coventre, at a yearly rent of two silver pence, by Nicholas Percy the Mayor and the bailiffs of Coventre to Sewall de Bulkynton of Coventre, William Luffe the elder, of Coventre, and Nicholas de Baddesley, chaplain, their heirs and assigns.

Lease by the Guild of the B. Mary in Coventre.

27 Edward III. [1353].—Lease for lives in survivorship, at a yearly rent of twenty-two shillings, of a messuage in the Greater Park Street in Coventre, by Walter le Whitwebbe of Coventre, Master of the Guild of the Blessed Mary of Coventre, with the assent of the said Guild, to Thomas Russel of Gretford, "packare" in Coventre, and his wife Matilda, and their first-born son John.

Gift by Sir John de Brocheford to Richard Sherewynd.

27 Edward III. [1353].—Gift of a bridge with a water-course, which Robert the Miller formerly held, and of a piece of land at "le Boleford," and a curtilage at Woodende, by Sir John de Brocheford, knt., lord of Arleye, to Richard Sherewynd.

Another Lease by the Guild of the B. Mary.

30 Edward III. [1356].—Lease for lives in survivorship, at a yearly rent of twenty-six shillings and eight pence, of a messuage in the Greater Park Street of Coventre, by William Holme, Master of the Guild of the Blessed Mary of Coventre, with the consent of the said Guild, to William Alleyleye and his wife Amice.

Gift of a Grange and the Reversion of a Messuage, &c.

30 Edward III. [1356].—Gift of a grange in Gosford Street beyond the bridge towards Gosford Asshe and the reversion (on the death of Richard Belers of Coventre, merchant) of a messuage and four fields in Coventre, by Nicholas de Baddesleye, chaplain, and Richard de Shepye of Coventre, hosier, to Richard the son of Ralph Billyng and his wife Alice.

Grant by the Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church to the Altar of the B. Virgin Mary.

1360.—Grant, made at the instance of John de Newby, clerk, and in consideration of his payment of thirty shillings, by the Prior and Convent of the cathedral church of Coventre, of a yearly rent of eight shillings and fourpence issuing from eight selions and four virgates of arable land, and of an adjoining meadow near the Frechbroke in the field of Coventre, to the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the said church, where mass is sung daily for all the benefactors living and dead of the aforesaid grantors.

The Guild of the B. V. Mary and St. John the Baptist.

1362.—Lease to Geoffrey de Northefolke of Coventre, mercer, and his wife Joan, for their two lives in survivorship of a messuage in Coventre, at a yearly rent of four pounds of silver, by Henry Dilcok, Master of the Guild of the B. V. Mary and St. John Bapt. with the assent of the said Guild.

Grant of Rents of One Hundred Marks.

45 Edward III. [1371].—Gift of rents amounting to one hundred marks sterling, to be had yearly out of all the lands and tenements in the town of Coventre which the grantor had of the gift and feoffment of John de Thornton and Henry de Bisschopistone and William Walssheman, by Hugh de Brendesleye to William Walssman and his wife Beatrice.

Grant of a Messuage in Earl's Street.

46 Edward III. [1372].—Grant in perpetual fee-farm, at a yearly rent of four pounds in silver, of a messuage in Earl's Street in Coventre, by John de Papenham, John de Toftes, Ralph Palivere, John de Pounfret, Thomas de Bassyngton and William de Corby, of Coventre, merchants, to Robert de Canleye of Coventre.

Lease by the Guild of the B. V. Mary, St. John Bapt. and St. Catherine.

46 Edward III. [1372].—Lease for forty years, at a yearly rent of twenty shillings, of a messuage at Croschepyng of Coventre, by John de Toftes, Master of the Guild of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist and St. Catherine of Coventre, with the assent of the whole fraternity of the said Guild, to Edward Dedon of Coventre.

From this deed it appears that the three several Guilds of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist and St. Catherine had been united and reconstituted into a single "Fraternity or Guild," and that the above was the first and proper designation of the Guild, which was united with the Guild of the Holy Trinity in the 17th regnal year of Richard the Second, as noticed below under that date, for which a license was granted on June 30th in the year preceding.

Bond for a Lessee's Repair of Premises.

48 Edward III. [1374].—Repairing Lease for forty years of two granges with a house and ten cottages and a curtilage in Coventre, by

John Botener and three others, merchants, to Robert de Berkindale of Coventre: with a separate bond from the said Robert de Berkindale in 20*l.* sterling, for the execution from time to time of all needful repairs, within twelve months of their becoming needful.

Grant by Richard de Torke of Coventre, Clerk.

50 Edward III [1376].—Gift of a messuage, with a house built upon it and a broad gate, in Palmerslane in Coventre, by Richard de Torke of Coventre, clerk, to John de Marton of Coventre, dyer.

Lease for Forty Years and for Life.

1 Richard II. [1377–8].—Lease for forty years and for life of a field in Coventre, near the church of St. Nicholas of Coventre, at a yearly rent of a rose-flower for forty years, and after the same term of years, at a yearly rent of three shillings and four pence, by Thomas Styward of Coventre to John Ingge of the same.

Conveyance of Lands formerly Henry Dodenhale's.

1 Richard II. [1377–8].—Grant by Nicholas Michel and Walter Whytewebbe, of Coventre, merchants, to Adam Botener and John Percy and eleven others, of all the lands and tenements, rents and reversions, meadows and pastures, &c., which the present grantors, in conjunction with Henry Clerk, Richard de Stoke and William de Bocheford, had by the gift and feoffment of Henry Dodenhale.

Noteworthy Indenture of Apprenticeship.

8 Richard II., September 15th [1384].—Indenture whereby Robert Wallis of Coventre bound himself to serve as an apprentice to John Thwening and Thomas Cawod of Coventre for six years, and in so binding himself promised, under the penalty of cancellation and forfeiture of the same indenture, that during the said six years he would commit neither "fornicacionem nec adulterium cum uxore, fillia (*sic*) nec nutrice nec ancilla dictorum magistrorum infra domum nec extra."

While this indenture is somewhat remarkable for being in Latin, it is more noteworthy for its limitations of the class of offences, which apprentices of later time could not commit with any persons or under any circumstances without rendering themselves liable to punishment by the forfeiture of their articles of apprenticeship. There is no reason to suppose that this indenture differs in this respect from agreements then usual at Coventre.

Licence to assign Messuages and Land to the Corpus Christi Guild.

16 Richard II. [1392].—Licence to John Skardeburgh, John Wedon, Richard Marshall, Adam Deyster and Nicholas Dudley to give nine messuages and six acres of land to the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Precious Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding: the said Licence being granted by the Prior and Convent of the cathedral church of St. Mary of Coventre, of whom the said nine messuages and six acres of land are immediately held.

Grant in pursuance of the preceding License.

16 Richard II. [1392].—Conveyance, made by authority of Letters Patent dated by the King on 28th June of the said year, of twenty-nine messuages, eight acres of arable land, eighteen denariates of rent and one half of a messuage in Coventre, by John. Scardeburgh and the four others named above to the Master brethren and sisters of the Guild of the precious Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, to hold the same for ever, for the finding a chaplain to celebrate divine services daily for the benefit of the said Master brethren and sisters, and for doing other works of piety.

Licence granted by the Dean of Lincoln for the Same.

16 Richard II. [1392].—Licence from Master John de Shepaye, Dean of Lincoln cathedral, to John de Skardburgh and the four others named above, to give for ever to the Master, brethren and sisters of the Guild of Corpus Christi of Coventre, a certain messuage in Coventre, which is held immediately of the said Dean, to aid the said Guild in finding a chaplain to celebrate divine services.

Enfeoffment of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c.

17 Richard II. [1393–4].—Enfeoffment of the lands, tenements, rents, services and reversions pertaining to the Master, brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist and St. Catherine of Coventre.

This deed setting forth all the particulars of the property of the newly constituted Guild, covers several large skins of vellum. Unfortunately it has suffered so much from dirt and friction as to be in places illegible.

Discord between Sir William La Zouche, Lord of Haringworth, and John Stones, of the one Part, and Rowland Damet of the other Part.

6 Henry IV. [1404–5].—Award (in French) of Arbitrators—to wit, William Keresley and Thomas-atte-Chirche of Stoke—for the determination of discord and controversy between William La Zouche Lord of Haryngworth and John Stones of Eton, of the one part, and Rowland Damet, of Coventre, of the other part, respecting right and title in certain lands and tenements in Folkeshull, to wit, in three enclosed fields called Grendonfeld, Goldyfeld and Walkferlong, which the said John de Stones claims to have for life, the reversion being to the said Sir William and his heirs for ever, and of which the said Rowland and Margaret his wife claim one. The arbitrators direct that one part of the tripartite indenture which sets forth their award shall remain in the Treasury of the Guild of the Trinity in Coventre for ever.

In this instrument the Guild entrusted with the custody of one part of the indenture is briefly styled "the Guild of the Trinity," instead of being styled with its full title.

Long Lease of a Shop, &c., in Cross Street.

8 Henry IV. [1406–7].—Lease for a hundred years, at a yearly rent of twenty shillings of a shop with a chamber above it and with adjoining curtilages and garden, in the street of the Cross in Coventre, by the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the B. V. M. and St. John Bapt. to Robert Shepley of Coventre, merchant.

Quitclaim in which mention is made of a Pageant-House.

8 Henry IV. [1406–7].—Quitclaim (sealed) by John, the son and heir of Richard Clerke of Coventre, merchant, to William Attilburgh, Richard Southam the elder, John Wymondeswold, John Onley, John Preston and John Happesford, of all the right which he has, or after his father's death may have, in all the messuages, tenements, rents, reversions, &c., which formerly pertained to John Graupe in the Greater Park Street in Coventre, and in a grange with an adjoining garden, a cottage, two other cottages, one pageant-house ("uno Pagenthous") in Hull Street occupied by the Masters of "Whittaweres-craft," two other cottages in the same street, a curtilage in the same street adjoining the land of Richard Bykenhull, a great field called Merryholt, another field called Chillenfeld, and another field called Wyndemilnfeld, in Coventre.

The pageant-house mentioned in this quitclaim was one of the houses in which certain of the companies of Coventre preserved the stages on wheels and the other theatrical properties which they used in the performances of the Coventry Mysteries. Many particulars of these plays and theatrical appliances and the Coventry pageant-houses, collected by the late James Orchard Halliwell-Phillipps, may be found in the Illustrative Notes to his *Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare.*

Grant of the Messuage called "Bytteresiane" to the Guild of the Holy Trinity.

10 Henry IV. [1409].—Gift and Livery of a messuage called Bytteresiane, lying in Smythforde Street in Coventre, by William Broke, parson of the church of Lodbrok, his son John Broke, and John Barbour of Bysshoppesychynton, to John Scardeburgh, Master of the Guild of the Holy Trinity of Coventre, and John de Preston and Robert Shippeley, brothers of the same Guild, and Margery Cookseye and Agnes the widow of Richard Clerk, sisters of the same Guild, for the aid and sustentacion of the guild; the grant and livery being made in accordance with Letters Patent of Licence of Henry IV. of February 16 *an.* 10, granted to the said William Broke, John Broke and John Barbour, for that purpose.

Lease of the "Bannepece" by the Prior and Convent of Coventre.

1 Henry V. [1413–4].—Lease for life, at a yearly rent of ten pence of a field called Bannepece, lying near the church of St. Nicholas of Coventre, by Richard Crosseby, Prior of the cathedral church and the Convent of the same, to John Whiteley, chaplain, of Coventre.

Lease of Shops in Bailey Lane.

1417.—Lease for twenty years, at a yearly rent of thirty-six shillings, of two shops in Bailey Lane with chambers over them and two chambers under them, by the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the B. V. M. and St. John Bapt. to John Hornby, girdler.

Cottages to be rebuilt with Timber and Tiles.

4 Henry V. [1416–7].—Lease for twenty-four years of divers cottages in Bishop's Street, at a yearly rent of six shillings, granted by John Gothe the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., to David Oswestre, carpenter, on condition that within two years the said David will rebuild the said cottages with fit timber and tiles.

Lease of the Tenter-Ground in Hill Street.

8 Henry V. [1420–1].—Lease for ten years, at a yearly rent of forty-six shillings and eight pence, of a croft and all the "tentoria" placed therein, and three small houses in Hulle Street, by John Prentys, chaplain, to William Owtred and John Owtred and their assigns; one condition of the lease being that the said tenants "sustentabunt omnia dicta tentoria videlicet in peciis meremii vocatis *lates* et clavis ferreis," and "omnia meremia dictis tentoriis incumbencia exhibebunt et invenient."

The largeness of the rent paid for this tenter-ground and its small houses and "tentoria" by tenants who were bound to do all the needful repairs at their own charges, may indicate both that the ground was extensive and that the local manufacture of cloth was a flourishing industry.

Lease granted by the Prior and Convent.

1 Henry VI. [1422–3].—Lease for lives in survivorship, at a yearly rent of fifty-three shillings and four pence, of a tenement in Attorhale in Sowe with meadows and pastures in Buydynge Haylyll and other appurtenances in Sowe and Wykyn, &c., by the Prior and convent of the church of the B. Mary of Coventre to Thomas Colyns and . . . his wife.

Provision for Celebration of an Anniversary in St. Michael's Church.

2 Henry VI. [1423–4].—Enfeoffment and lease for ever to the Mayor and Community of the City of Coventre of a messuage in Erlstrete, by William Babyngton, Chief Justice of the King's Common Bench, and William Botener of Withibroke, feoffee of Agnes Whittechirche, widow of William Whittechirche late a citizen of Coventre, on condition that the said Mayor and Community celebrate yearly the anniversary of the said William Whittechirche and of William Palmer and of the aforesaide Agnes Whittechirche, in the church of St. Michael, at a cost and in a manner set forth in the deed.

The House Called "the Drapery."

1425.—Lease for thirty years, at a yearly rent of eight shillings, of one half of a house called the Drapery, by the Master and brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., to William Cortenale, draper.

The Great Drapery of Coventre.

4 Henry VI. [1425–6].—Lease for thirty years, at a yearly rental of six shillings and eight pence, of one half-bay in the Great Drapery ("unam dimidiam bayam in Magna Draperia Coventre") by John Leder the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c. to John Willughby, draper.

John Alen, "Passonger."

10 Henry VI. [1431–2].—Lease for twenty years, at a yearly rent of five marks, of a messuage in Bayllylane in Coventre, by Laurence Cook the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c. to John Alen of Coventre, "passonger."

Lease for Ninety-nine Years to the Prior and Convent.

1437.—Lease for ninety-nine years, at a yearly rent of sixpence, of four "seliones" of land lying together in the field near Coventre called "le Hylmylfeld," by Robert Schypeley, Richard Beton and William Radeclyff, feoffees of the lands and tenements of John Schypeley, son of the aforesaid Robert Schypeley, to the Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church of St. Mary.

A Tenement of the Abbot and Convent of Combe in Much Park Street.

32 Henry VI. [1453–4].—Lease for twelve years, at a yearly rent of fifty-three shillings and four pence, of a messuage situated "in quodam vico vocato Mustheparkstrete inter tenementum Abbatis et Conventus ecclesie beate Marie de Comba ex una parte, et terram Willelmi Betley ex alia parte," by Richard Boyes the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity to Richard Nores, hosier.

The street, here called "Mustheparkstrete," is still called indifferently "Much Park Street" and "Greater Park Street," the former of these names being the one that appears on the walls of the street.

Selot's Chantry in Smythford Street.

33 Henry VI. [1454–5].—Gift of a messuage in Smythforde Street, lying between Seloteschauntery on the one part and the tenement of William Melody on the other part, by William Saunders, deyster, and his wife Agnes, to John Colchester, Robert Lawe, clerk, Simon Byrches and John Broun, lynendraper, and their heirs and assigns.

Provision for Celebration of an Obit in the Church of Chesterfield.

1471, January 2nd.—Indenture of an agreement between Richard Wood, Master of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, the B. V. M. St. J. Bapt. and St. Katherine, and Richard Braytoft and John Pynchebek brethren, and Agnes Boys and Agnes Fyssher sisters, of the same Guild, of the one part, and Rafe Calcrofte, Master, John Thomson and John Swerde brethren, and Alice Coke and Margery Carr sisters, of the Guild of St. Mary of Chesterfelde of the other part, for the yearly celebration of an obit in the church of Chesterfeld "for the soules of Master Thomas Chesterfeld, his fadir, his modyr and John Braunston," and for the souls of other deceased persons.

Inn Sign of "The Cardinal's Hat."

11 Edward IV. [1471–2].—Gift by Dame Isabella, late the wife of Walter Langley esq., of her inn in Coventre called "Cardinalis Hatt," near the inn called "Le Crown in placea vocata Brodeyatys," to her son John Langley.

Agreement to abide by an Award of Arbitrators.

12 Edward IV., May 21st [1472].—Indenture, sealed with the seal of the Mayor and community of Coventre, of an agreement whereby William Briscowe *alias* Bristowe of the one part, and the Mayor and community of the said city of the other part, agreed to "abyde the rule ordinaunce and jugement of John Cateby sergeaunt of the lawe and William Cumberford arbitratours indifferently chosen betwixt the said parties of and upon the title and possession of alle maner landes and comyn of pasture beyng in variaunce between them," and also agreed "that the said William Briscowe and one assigned for the seid Meir and cominalte shall ride to London at VIII^{vas} of Trinite next comyng to labur and desire the seid John Cateby and William Cumberford to take the labur of the premises upon them."

Unfortunately the parties to this indenture did not hold steadily to their purpose of determining by arbitration the controversy respecting their right and title in lands and common of pasture on Whitley Common. The arrangement having fallen through, the Corporation and the Squire of Whitley contended fiercely and bitterly with angry words and blows, public riot and costly litigation.

The official clerks, who in the 15th century copied records touching the owner of the estate usually styled Whitley Manor (albeit its alleged manorial quality was questioned and even denied by many persons), used to spell his surname in different ways, *e.g.*, Briscowe, Briscoe, Bristowe, Bristoe.

Award of Arbitrators for ending the aforesaid Controversy.

13 Edward IV., July 3rd [1473].—Award of Arbitrators for determining the variance and controversy between the Mayor and community of Coventre of the one part and William Briscoe of Whitley of the other part, respecting right and title in certain lands in Whitley, running in these words: "This indenture made the thridde day of July the xiiith yer of King Edward the Fourth witnesseth

that wher variaunce contravercie and debate was had moved and steryd betwene the Meir and cominalte of the Citee of Coventre on that on partie, and William Briscoe on that othir partie, for the right title and possession of certen land lying in Whittley bitwene the water of Shirborne and the Skynners buttes in lenght on that on partie and on the othir partie from the same Skynners buttes unto a meadowe callid Medowmore on the othir partie, and in brede bitwene the Kyngis park on the on partie and the highweye leying from Coventre toward London on that othir partie, and also for a parcelle of land bitwene Alderfordpece and Whittleycros parcelle of the same lond, and also for comyn of pasture which the said William Briscowe claimeth to have for his bestis in alle the feldis on both sides of the said wey from the seid lond called Buggyngfeld upon Wridesden or Stokefeld upon Wridesden and Skinners buttes unto the towne of Coventre, wherein the seid Meir and cominalte have used to have their comyn of pasture from the fest of Seynt Peter the Advincle (*sic*) called Lammas unto the fest of the Purificacion of our Lady: Wherupon John Fissher of Coventre, sherman, and John Emmottes of the same, capper, be bounden in an obligacion of an hundreth mark to the said William Briscowe for the said Meir and cominalte, upon condicion that the said Meir and cominalte shuld abide the arbitrement ordinaunce and dome of George Burneby esquier, John Hathewike, Thomas Cotes and Robert Otter arbitrours chosen indifferently bitwene the seid parties, and the seid William Briscowe was bounden in an nothir obligacion of an hundred mark to the seid John Fissher and John Emmottis upon the same condicion. Wherupon the said arbitrours the dey and yer aboveseid awarded ordeigned and demyd that aswell the seid William Briscowe as the seid Meir and cominalte shalbe nounsued in all such accions as either partie have ayenst othir in any of the Kyngis Courtis, and also the seid William Briscowe shall relees and suertie of the peas ayed (?) ayenst John Wildenrise of Coventre, and also the seid arbitrours awarded ordeigned and demyd that the seid William Briscoe shall have and enjoy to hym his heirez and his assignez for evermore without any interupcion of the seid Meir and cominalte and their successours alle such lond lieing in Whittley from the water of Shirborne unto Buggyngfeld upon Wridesden in Whittley aboveseid, which hath byn enclosed bifor this tyme, and also the said William shall have to hym his heirez and assignez for evermore without any interupcion of the seid Meir and cominalte and their successours alle such lond in Whittley callid Buggyngfeld or Stokefeld upon Wrisdeden as is aboveseid, lieng betwene the seid lond enclosed and the seid Skynners buttes in lenght and in brede bitwene the said Kyngis park and the said highwey ledyng from Coventre toward London, with the forseid parcell of the same Buggyngfeld lyend from Whittlecros to Alderfordpece, savyng the right of alle othir parsones pretendyng eny title in eny parcelle of the same lond if eny right they have. And farthermore the seid arbitrours awarded ordeigned and demyd that the seid Meir and cominalte shall have only every yer comyn of pasture with their bestis from Lammas unto Candlemas in all the said lond if it be falowe or ellis unsowen, and if it be sowen as soone as the corne is caried away. And also the same arbitrours awarded ordeyned and demyd that the seid William Briscowe his heirs and his assignez shalbe comyn and entre comyn with the said Meir and cominalte and their successours for evirmore withoute eny interuption of the same Meir and cominalte and their successours as is aforeseid, in like wise and fourme in alle such lond and feldis as the seid Meir and cominaltie have comyn in bitwene the said Skynners buttes and Buggungfeld upon Wridesden aforeseid and the towne of Coventre on

both sydes the seid highwey, aftir the rate of the seid lond lyeng bitwene the water of Shirborne aboveseid and the seid Skynners buttes and feld aforseid, and also aftir the rate of a felde callid Alderfordpece and after the rate of a parcel of lond lyeng from Alderfordpece to Whittleycros aboveseid. Also the said arbitrours awarded ordeigned and demyd that the said Meir and cominalte and everych of them shalbe quyte and discharged ayenst the said William Briscowe his heirez and his executours for alle maner of trespacez and offences doon by theym or eny of theym to the said William Briscowe for eny interesse or occupacion of eny of the said lond afor the date of this present writyng. In wittnes whereof to this partie of this Indenture remayning with the said William Briscowe the seid arbitrours have sette their sealis the day and yer aboveseid."

Attached to this writing on vellum is the above-mentioned Recognizance of John Fyssher and John Emottes, dated on 27th June, 18 Edward IV., whereby they acknowledge themselves to be bound to the said William Briscowe in the sum of one hundred marks sterling to be paid to him or his attorney in the quindene of St. John the Baptist next.

Together with this Indenture, there is also preserved in the Muniment Room, the counterpart "remaynyng with the said Meir."

An exemplification of this award, dated 18 Nov. 14 Edw. IV., is noted among the MSS. in Class IV., *infra;* and of a verdict of a jury on the dispute. Other records are also in Class VI., *infra.*

Lease granted by the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c. to William Paynell, "Whittewer."

16 Edward IV. [1476–7].—Lease for twelve years, at a yearly rent of forty-six shillings and eight pence, of a messuage with a garden in Sponne Street, by Richard Braytoft the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., to William Paynell, "whittewer."

Hall of St. Nicholas and Hospital of St. John the Baptist.

20 Edward IV. [1480–1].—Quitclaim and Confirmation, by Henry Grey, esquire, son of Edward Grey, late Lord de Ferrars de Groby, and by Henry Boteler, feoffee of William Burgeys, cousin and heir of Ralph Hunt, to Richard Colyns, in respect to a toft or piece of land in Coventre, lying as to length in Smythfordstreete, and as to its breadth between the tenement of the Guild of Corpus Christi and St. Nicholas and the tenement of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, and extending from the same street to the Hall of the aforesaid Guild called St. Nicholas Hall.

The Guild-yard within Bayly Lane.

5 Henry VII., June 20th [1490].—Lease for twenty years, at a yearly rent of fifty-five shillings, of two tenements in Coventre, the one being in Baylylane, and the other in the "Gylyard" within Baylylane, by Henry Kebull, Master of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., with the assent of the brethren and sisters of the said Guild, to William Haddon, mercer.

Lease of a Tenement in Erlesmyll Lane.

11 Henry VII. [1495–6].—Lease for twenty-one years, at a yearly rent of thirteen shillings and fourpence, of a tenement with appurtenances in Erlesmyll Lane, by Richard Colman, Master of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., with the assent of the brethren and sisters of the said Guild, to Thomas Mooselle and Richard Booth, "sherman."

Award of Arbitrators between the Prior and Convent and the City of Coventre, in respect to Contributions to the Murage of the City.

14 Henry VII. [1498–9].—Award of Arbitrators—to wit, of William Bishop of Lincoln, and John Bishop of Coventre and Lichfield, "and other of the Counsell lerned of Arthur the first begoten sonne of King Henry VIIth, Prince of Wales . . . indifferently chosen and named between Richard, Priour of the Monastery of Saint Mary in the Citie of Coventre, and the Convent of the same place on the one partie, and Thomas Bonde, Maire, and Commoinaltie of the same Citie on the other partie"—for determining discord and variance respecting a yearly sum of 10*l.*, which the said Mayor and community claimed of the said Prior and Convent for the murage of the city. The Arbitrators ordain that from the date of their award "the said Priour and Convent and their successors shall bere and pay ratably with the citesyns of the Citie to the forseid murage and making of the saide walles about the said citie unto such tyme as the same walles be fully made up and accomplished, that is to say yearly x*li* at the fest of All Sayntes, when the said citesens and all other having londes and tenementes within the same citie shall be proportionably charged after the rate of the quantite of their said londes and tenements to the same murage, provided always that, if any of the citizens or other personnes that have londes and tenementes within the same be hereafter rated and assessed to a lesse somme of money, then the Priour and Convent and their successours shalbe in like forme lesse rated."

Provision for such an Obit as was "Comenly usid for Men of Worshipe" in Coventre.

12 Henry VIII., October 6th [1520].—Indenture of an agreement between Thomas White, Master of the Guild of Corpus Christi and St. Nicholas and the brethren and sisters of the same Guild of the first part, and Letyse the widow and executrix of the testament of John Saunders late of Coventre, capper and alderman, and John Clerk, grocer, and Nicholas Heynes, capper, overseers of the same testament, of the second part, and John Bonde, mayor, and the community of the City of Coventre of the third part, and Thomas Waren the Master and the brethren and sisters of the Guild of the Holy Trinity, &c., of the fourth part: Whereby the said Master brethren and sisters of the aforesaid Guild of Corpus Christi covenant that they will "yerely for ever on the second day of the moneth of August cause an Obite to be kept in the parishe churche of St. Mighell in the said Cite for the soules of the said John Saunders and Letyse, Agnes and Alice his wiffes, as is comenly usid for men of worshipe in the seid Cite, with *dirige* over nyghte and masse of the morowe with x preistes iii clerks and ii children, every prieste to have iii*d.*, every clerke ii*d.* and every child a peny."

Assignment of the Manor Place by Chellesmore Dame Elizabeth Swillyngton.

21 Henry VIII., March 6th [1530].—Assignment to Roger Wigston and Thomas Try, esquires, by Elizabeth Swillyngton, widow and executrix of the late Rauf Swillyngton esq., of all her interest in the Manor or Lordship of Chillesmore in the county of the city of Coventre, under Letters Patent dated on 7th June, 16 Henry VIII., whereby the said King granted for twenty-one years, at a yearly rental of 15*l.*, the said Manor and Lordship (with exceptions and reservations) to Geffrey Whalley, prior of the monastery of Ulvescroft and to the convent of the same place, to the use of Rauf Swillyngton for twenty-one years beginning at Michaelmas next after the date of the said Letters Patent; it being stipulated in the said assignment that the said Elizabeth shall have and enjoy to herself and her assigns during all the said term "the Manor Place of Chellesmore with all mottes and waters on every side the said manor-place, and all buyldings and gardynes and litle groundes within the same mottes, and the grounde without the mote on the southe side of the said manor-place within the said park, that is to sey along the freers gardyns or orchard walle after the mote unto the Pynlok gate, as it hath of olde tyme bene dyched and severed, with hegebet from tyme to tyme to be taken within the said parke for the defence of the same grounde, and to enclose and kepe severall or otherwyse to use the same at the pleasure of the said Elizabeth during the said term, and also a litell close with all the grounde without the mote and est syde of the said manor place towards the citie, except only the course and recourse with cataill to the pynloke."

William Marler, Gentleman, Son and Heir of Richard Marler, Grocer.

28 Henry VIII., June 16th [1536].—Gift by William Marler of the city of Coventrie, gentleman, son and heir of Richard Marler of the same city, grocer, of all his messuages, lands and tenements &c. in Olde Fylonghley, co. Warwick, to William Holbache the elder of Fylonghley, yeoman, and Thomas Holbache the elder of Olde Filonghley, yeoman.

Mortgage of William Marler's Land and Tenements in Old Filonghley.

28 Henry VIII., November 26th [1536].—Sale by William Marler, of Coventre, gentleman, to William Holbach the elder and Thomas Holbach the elder, both of Filonghley co, Warwick, yeomen, of his messuage, lands and tenements &c. in Old Filonghley under condition that, if he should pay, or cause to be paid, to the said William and Thomas Holbache, or either of them, the sum of forty-six pounds at any time before the Feast of St. Michael in A.D. 1540, the said sale shall be void.

The Mote House in Coundon co. Warwick.

30 Henry VIII., May 31st [1538].—Lease for fourscore years, at a yearly rent of 17*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* by Thomas Camswell the Prior of the monastery of our Lady of Coventre and the Convent of the same to

Myghell Bolde, of the said city, yeoman, of a messuage with appurtenances in Coundon co. Warwick "called the Mothouse," with an orchard, a garden, a croft, a field, and divers closes and pieces of land, and also all the "tythes of woole and lambs with all rightes, dutyes, proffittes . . . . to them in the tythe and rights of the monasterie and of the churches of Herdwyke and Priores Marston in the countye of Warwick yerely growyng and renewyng and beyng with the parysshes of Herdwyke and Prioures Marston."

Agreement for regulating the Manufacture of Cromple Lyste and Ulterfyne Cloths.

10 Elizabeth, March 22nd [1568].—Indenture of an agreement, between Queen Elizabeth of the one part and the Mayor bailiffs and commoinaltie of Coventre of the other part: for placing under good government and conditions the manufacture of Cromple Lyste and Ulterfyne or Utterfyne cloths, recently introduced into Coventre from Armentiers in Flanders, and for regulating the trade in the same cloths with rules and penalties, in furtherance of the concessions made by Her Majesty to the people of Coventre by Letters Patent of the same date (as noticed above under the head of the Charters).

Lease of a Tower in the South Wall of the City of Coventre.

11 Elizabeth, October 10th [1569].—Deed of sale and assignment, whereby Sir Edward Saunders, of Weston-under-Wetherley, co. Warwick knt., one of the King's (*sic*) Serjeants-at-Law and Recorder of Coventre, assigned to Thomas Dudley of Coventre, gentleman, Edward Damport of the same city, pewterer, and four other persons of the same city, the remainder of a lease for eighty years of a Tower, standing in the south part of the wall of the said city, and also the remainder of a lease for ninety-six years of a close called Little Pudingcrofte adjoining the same south wall, which leases were both granted to the said Sir Edward Saunders by the Mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre.

Grant of the Manor of Stoke &c. to the Mayor and Community, for the Relief of the Poor and the Maintenance of Bablake Hospital.

30 Elizabeth, March 10th [1588].—Agreement made between John Horne of Stoke in the county of the city of Coventrey, gentleman, and his son and heir-apparent Reginald Horne, of the one part, and the Mayor bailiffs and community of the city of Coventrey, of the other part, whereby, in consideration of a sum of 80*l.* paid to them, and for the relief of the poor of the said city, and for the repair and maintenance of a hospital called Bablake within the same city, the said John Horne and Reginald Horne granted and sold for ever all the lordship and manor of Stoke aforesaid, with all the messuages, rights, privileges and appurtenances of the same manor, to the aforesaid Mayor bailiffs and community: with an indented Schedule of "the Chiefe Rentes, parcel of the said Manor of Stoke" attached to the Indenture.

Establishment of a House of Correction in Coventre.

37 Elizabeth, August 13th [1595].—Deed of sale and conveyance, made in consideration of a payment of forty marks, by Barnabie Holbache of Younge Fillonghlie co. Warwick, yeoman, and William Holbache son of the said Barnabie, of the manor of Olde Fillonghlie co. Warwick, and the common and waste grounds called the Chapell Greene, and the stange or water-pond thereunto adjoining, and Newhaie Greene, and thirty acres upon Corely Moore &c., and divers chief rents, to the Mayor bailiffs and community of Coventre, to hold the same to them and their successors forever "to and for the provision sustentacion and maintenaunce of the House of Correction in the said citie of Coventre and for stocks and stoores to the uses and according to the Statutes of the Eighteenth and Five-and-Thirtieth yeres" of the Queen.

A Tenement lately a Pageant-House in Gosford Street.

44 Elizabeth, June 1st [1602].—Lease for sixty-one years, by Richard Butler, John Herringe, Michell Smithe and Ralfe Dunnington, Masters and wardens of the Company of Mercers of Coventre, of a messuage or tenement "lately being a pagent house" in Gosford "Street," to Richard Bankes, "yoman," his executors and assigns, at a yearly rent of twenty-seven shillings.

Tithes of "Bradokes Waste" of the Rectory of St. Michael.

3 James I., March 9th [1606].—Lease for twenty-one years, at a yearly rent of thirty-three shillings and four pence, by the Mayor bailiffs and commonalty of Coventre to Samuel . . . of Stoke, gentleman, of all "ther tithes of corn, hey and herbage, wood, wool, lambe and all other titheable thinges growynge renewynge and cominge in all those groundes as they be now severed called and knowne by the name of Bradokes Waste lying and beyng within the titheable places of the Rectorie of St. Michaell and Trinitie within the city of Coventre."

Agreement touching the Conduits.

9 Charles I., August 20th [1633].—Indenture of an agreement, between Bartholomew Bewley "of Coventrey plummer," of the one part, and the Mayor bailiffs and commonaltie of the said city, of the other part, opening thus, "Whereas long and of ancient times there hath beene amongst others two conduits in the said citie, whereof one is commonly called the Bull Conduit and the other is called Croscheaping Conduit, which conduits are or have beene usuallie served and fedd with water by a maine pipe of leade laid and placed from the spring or fountaine called Conduit Head lying and being in the countie of the said Citie unto the conduits aforesaid, from and betweene which two conduits there is and hath bene anciently a pipe of lead laid and placed in the ground for conveying and bringing of the said spring water from the one conduit to the other, and whereas by agreement made betweene the said parties the said Bartholomew Bewley did in August last undertake and promise at his owne charges to take up the said pipe of lead betweene the said conduit called the Bull Conduit and the other conduit in the same citie called the Croscheaping Conduit, and to cast and make such a sufficient and substantial new cast pipe of lead of as great large

and full a proportion as well for boare and thickness and weight as should in every respect be answerable to one pece of cast pipe of leade then brought to remaine for a patterne in the Counsell House of the said city" &c. By the indenture, which sets forth in these terms the source from which the two principal conduits of the citie drew their chief supply of water, Bartholomew Bewley, besides undertaking to renew the pipe running between the same conduits, also undertook amongst other things, for a consideration and under conditions set forth in the indenture, to keep the conduits and public water-pipes of the said city in repair for thirty-one years.

THE LADY TOWER, FORMERLY PART OF THE TOWN WALL LATELY DEMOLISHED BY ORDER OF CHARLES THE SECOND.

22 Charles II., February 8th [1670].—Indenture of an agreement, between the Mayor bailiffs and community of the city of Coventry of the one part and Sir John Hales of the same city, baronet, of the other part, whereby the said Mayor bailiffs and community granted to the said Sir John Hales all the stone of the Lady Tower, formerly part of the Town Wall of the said city without Newgate, "which wall by the King's commaund was lately demolished," and also granted to the same Sir John Hales, his heirs and assigns, for a term of ninety nine years, a parcel of ground lying and adjoining the same Town Wall without Newgate, and also the ground where such part of the Town Wall stood; the said grant of stone and lease of ground being made by the said Corporation in consideration of £5 paid to them by the said Sir John Hales by way of fine, and also in consideration of a yearly rent of five shillings to be paid by the same grantee his heirs and assigns to the said Mayor bailiffs and community, throughout the said term of ninety-nine years. Attached to this Indenture is "A scheme of the demised premises."

IV. *Exemplifications of Curial Records, Writs and Letters of Commission, to the number of thirteen writings.*

Together with other writings that need not be noticed in the present report, the MSS. of this group comprise the following :—

CONTROVERSY BETWEEN WILLIAM BRISCOE AND THE MAYOR AND COMMUNITY OF COVENTRE.

14 Edward IV., November 18th [1474].—Exemplification of the enrolment of an Indenture made on 3rd July of 13 Edward IV. between the Mayor and Community of Coventre of the one part and William Briscoe *alias* Bristoe of the same city of the other part, as entered under the latter date, *supra*.

VERDICT OF JURORS ON THE SAME DISPUTE.

15 Edward IV., November 28th [1475].—Exemplification of the Record (amongst the Pleas at Westminster in Trinity Term, 15 Edward IV.) of the proceedings in the cause of the Mayor and Community of Coventre *versus* William Briscowe, of Coventre, gentleman, closing with the verdict of jurors that the Mayor and Community of the said city unjustly disseised the said William of twenty-eight acres of arable land and three acres of heath lying under the park of Cheldesmore from the buttes called the Skynners' Buttes to the water at

Shirborn, and that the said William did not enter with violence and arms on the said land called "the comengrownd," and did not disseise the said Mayor and community of the said land.

Other documents relating to this dispute will be found under the next headings, in Classes V. and VI.

Former Possessions of the Prior and Convent of Coventre in the Wodende.

36 Elizabeth, October 30th [1594].—Exemplification under the seal of the Exchequer of entries in a book formerly belonging to the Priory of Coventre, and remaining in the custody of the Remembrancer of the Exchequer: Certifying that the Prior and Convent of Coventre had in the Wodende a tenement or messuage, and also had as appurtenances to the same messuage two fields called the Knydinges, extending in one direction to the waste of the lordship of Stoke, and also a waste called Bagot Waste lying between the waste of Robert de Stoke and the way toward Leicestre, and also a toft near the Wenchfeldes, and a croft lying in Wyken and called Wykyncroft.

Writs to Sheriffs and Others Co. Warwick, for providing Ships, &c. for the King's Service.

11 Charles I., August 4th [1635].—Writ addressed to the Sheriff of the county of Warwick, the Mayor bailiffs and community of the city of Coventre, and the Sheriffs of the county of the same city, and the Bailiffs of the town of Brymingham, and the Warden and society of the royal town of Sutton Coldfield co. Warwick, and the Bailiff aldermen and chief burgesses of Stratford-upon-Avon co. Warwick, and all the worthy men of the said city, boroughs, and members thereof, and in the county of the said city, and in the towns of Warwick, Alcester and Coleshill, and all the other towns, villages, hamlets and places in the said county: Requiring them to provide at their own charges a ship of war of four hundred tons, manned with one hundred and sixty able and expert seamen, and duly equipped with victuals, arms and munitions of war, and to cause the same ship to be brought, this side the first day of next March, to the port of Portsmouth, thence to proceed in the company of the said King's ships and the ships of others his faithful subjects in an expedition to fight and destroy the robbers and pirates of the sea, Mahometan enemies of the Christian name, and others, who are harassing and despoiling and plundering the ships, goods and merchandise of the king's subjects and friends, and have carried the men of the same ships into most wretched captivity.

Also, three other writs for shipping of war for the same purpose, dated respectively August 12th 12 Charles I., 19th September 13 Charles I., and 5th November 14 Charles I.

Appointment of Deputy Lieutenants of Coventre.

35 Charles II., September 22nd [1683].—Commission, signed and sealed by Robert Earl of Sunderland, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Warwick, appointing the Mayor of Coventre for the time being, Sir Thomas Norton bart., Sir Arthur Caley and Sir Robert Townesend knts., John Dugdale, Basil Fielding and Henry Greene esqrs., Nathanael Harriman, Thomas King, Henry Smith and Richard Haywood,

gentlemen, to be Deputy Lieutenants for and in the city of Coventry and the county of the same city. Also, new Letters of Commission to the same effect, dated on 20th June, 1 James II. [1685] by the same Lord Lieutenant.

V. *Rolls and Files, to the number of eighteen.*

These writings comprise the following matters:—

Suit of Robert de Morley *versus* the Prior of Coventre.

Edward III. Detached membranes of a Roll (French and Latin), comprising a copy of the Record of proceedings in Robert de Morley's suit at York in 11 Edward III. [1337] against the Prior of Coventre, for the recovery of a thousand acres of arable land, ten acres of meadow, twenty acres of pasture and twelve acres of wood in Sowe.

Statute Merchant Rolls for Recognizance of Debts.

(*a*) 15 Richard II.—3 Henry V.—Remains of a Roll; the Clerk of the Statute throughout the term of years covered by these remaining membranes was John Ofchirch.

(*b*) *Temp.* Henry VI.—Four membranes of another roll, to wit, for the 8th, 12th, 13th and 34th years of Henry the Sixth.

(*c*) 15 Henry VIII.—3 James II.—A collection of detached membranes of similar rolls, the membranes being for the years 15 and 26 Henry VIII., 29, 31, 33 and 45 Elizabeth, 1 James I., 33, 34, 35 and 36 Charles II., and 1, 2 and 3 James II.

(*d*) 26 Henry VIII.—29 Charles II.—A great and heavy File of one hundred and eighteen Rolls, upon the same number of membranes, for four years of Henry VIII., two years of Edward VI., five years of Mary, thirty-six years of Elizabeth, twenty-two years of James I., twenty-three years of Charles I., the eleven years of the Commonwealth Period and fifteen years of the reign of Charles the Second.

The membranes of this imperfect series of Statute Merchant Rolls appear to have been flattened out and put together on a single file by a comparatively modern worker upon the Coventry records.

The Warwickshire antiquary who would edit this large body of Statute Merchant Rolls would discover curious pieces of information, touching the personal history of notable individuals, and could hardly fail to throw light on the social condition and financial vicissitudes of one of the most interesting cities of England.

Furniture and Ornaments of the Guild of the Holy Trinity.

20 Henry VI. [1441–2].—Roll (a single indented membrane) of the Inventory of the tapestry, needlework, seats of estate, registers, silver and silver-gilt plate, napery (diapered and plain) and other chattels, belonging to the Guild of the Holy Trinity of Coventre, in the custody of William Barynton, "officiarium dicte Guilde, custodientem jocalia dicte Gilde subscripta."

Incident in the Dispute between William Briscowe and the Citizens of Coventre.

11 Edward IV. [1471–2].—Copy of the Record of the Proceedings in the cause of William Pere *v.* Briscowe (otherwise spelt Bristowe)

of Coventre, gentleman, and William White of Whitley co. Coventre, husbandman, charged by the said William Pere with assaulting him and breaking into his close, &c. on 4th July, 10 Edward IV.

Warrant for levying Distresses on Tenants of the Manor of Cheilsmore.

14 James I. [1616–7].—Roll-Schedule of arrears of rent due to the King from tenants of the manor of Cheilsmore; with a warrant at its foot, signed by Fulke Grevyll, for levying distresses for the payment, and for arresting those tenants who refuse to pay.

VI. *Miscellaneous Matters.*

The writings, described under this heading in the Catalogue of the Charters and Manuscripts, comprise the following records:—

Large Packet of "Final Concords."

Edward III.—Charles II.—Packet of eighty Final Concords from the time of Edward III. to that of Charles II.

The Great Riot on Whitley Common.

10 Edward IV. [1470].—Large membrance, displaying on one of its its sides copies of five several writings, to wit,

(*a*) The Bill of Complaint made to the King by William Briscowe (otherwise spelt Bristowe), who describes himself as having been "seisyd of the maners of Whittley with the appurtenances," against William Saunders mayor of the said city, and William Pere and Robert Orly citizens of the said cite, for having in the said King's 9th year "caused, stered, provokyd, and commaundyd many and dyvers rotys [riotous?] personys of the seid cite, that is for to sey Henre Dabby, carpenter, Nicolaus Kent, sadeler, William Drew, wolman, and John Bordale, smyth, with many other rotys personeys of the said cite onto them accompeneyed, to the number of vc. personys and more, to your seid besechere oonknown, in manere of warre arrayed, that is to sey [with] byllys, launcegayes, jakkys, salettys, bowes, arrowes, and with mattokys, spadeys, sholles and axes, which by ther commaundment provocacion and steryng in souche riotis wyse came to the seid iiii closseys of your seid besecher and the other landeys parcel of his seid maner, and the same tyme caste downe his gatys and his dyches, cutte down his hegeys and his trees, the whiche dyches and hegeys have be ther continued and useyd tyme [out] of mynde, and money grete okeys beyng growyng in the hegeys and dyches &c." Praying the said King to grant his Letters of Privy Seale to be directed to the said William Saunders late mayor of Coventre and William Pere, commanding them to appear before the Privy Council, to answer for the matters charged against them by the complainant.

(*b*) "The Answere of William Saunders, William Pere and John Gange, citizennys of the Citie of Coventre to the Bill sued ageyns them by William Briscowe."

(*c*) "The Replicacion of William Briscowe to the answere of William Saunders, William Pere and John Gange."

(*d*) "The Rejoindre of William Saunders, William Pere and John Gange to the Replicacion of William Briscowe."

(*e*.) The King's Writ, dated at Westminster on 18th July of his 10th year, and directed to the Prior of Mastoke, Sir Richard Byngam knt. and Thomas Lyttelton: requiring them to make enquiry, and by the examination of trustworthy witnesses to ascertain the truth and justices of the matters in dispute, as set forth in the said Bill, Answer, Replication and Rejoinder, and to make a return respecting the same, together with the examinations of the witnesses, to the King and his Council.

Affidavit respecting the Discord between William Briscowe and the City of Coventre.

12 Edward IV. May 24th [1472].—The Sworn Declaration of thirty men of various ages between 40 and 80 years inclusive, protesting against the trouble William Briscowe of Whitley has caused and is causing to the Mayor and community of Coventre by "claymyng the common grounde that lieth betweixt Baronfelde without the newe yate under the Kynges Park stretchyng to Whitby broke called Shirburne afferming hit to be his own lande," and certifying that the said claim is "open wrong." In conclusion, they say that, in consideration of their seals being little known, they desired "the reverend fadirs John Abbot of Kenelworth, Alexander Abbot of Combe, Richard Abbot of Myryvale, John Abbot of Stonley, Symond Mountfort knyght, Robert Stretley knyght and William Hugford, in whose presence" they have sworn upon a book to the truth of their evidence, "to set their seals to these presents."

As this affidavit is sealed by all the thirty makers of the declaration, as well as by the four Abbots, two knights and one other person, who bore testimony to the credibility of the declarants, the instrument is fringed at the bottom with a remarkable show of seals.

The late Religious House of the Whitefriars in Coventre.

4 and 5 Philip and Mary [1557–8].—Copy (certified by William Berners and Thomas Mildmay) of the original Warrant, addressed by the King and Queen to their Commissioners William Barnes, Thomas Mildemay and John Wyseman, for the acquittance and discharge of the Mayor Aldermen and inhabitants of Coventrie, in respect to their action in taking and detaining the two bells and lead of "the late religious hous of White Friers in the said citie of Coventrie," which house "at the tyme of late dissolucion of Abbies, Priories, Monasteries, Chauntries and other religious houses within this realme of Englande . . . . was suppressed and pulled downe to the great defacing of the said citie," when "the tymber, tilles and other ornaments apperteyning to the said church . . . . was (*sic*) sold to the said persones."

The City of Coventry and St. John's College, Oxford.

7 Eliz. 1565—1681.—File of yearly Receipts from 7 Eliz. to 1681 in acknowledgment of a sum of £40, paid yearly by the Mayor and Community of Coventre to the President and Fellows of the College of St. John the Baptist in Oxford.

Address to Queen Elizabeth from Loyal Citizens.

26 Elizabeth, November 14th [1584].—Duplicate of the Address offered to Queen Elizabeth by 201 of Her Majesty's loyal and faithful citizens of Coventre, who declare their abhorrence of the wicked designs and practices whereby certain of her enemies seek to deprive her of her crown and life, and who inform Her Highness that they have formed themselves into an association, each member of which is bound by his oath to do his utmost to frustrate the detestable efforts of her said enemies, to discover their plots, and "pursue as well by force of arms as by all other means of revenge, warranted by the laws of this realme, alle manner of persones of what estate soever they shalbe, and their abetters, that shall attempt by any act, counsaile or consent, anything that shall tend to the harme of her Majestie's royal person." In the last line of their address, the two hundred and one members of the Society declare themselves "most reddie to accept and admitt any other hereafter to this our Societie and Association," for the maintenance of the Queen's throne, the preservation of her life, the welfare of her kingdom, and the confusion of her enemies. The address is followed on the same parchment by the wafer-seals and signatures of the "ten scoore and one" members of the Society. Each of the seals is placed between the signatory's christian and surname, and besides being impressed upon the parchment is attached to it by a thread.

Papers &c. of the Company of Carpenters, Tilers, and Pinners.

16th to 19th century.—Collection of miscellaneous writings,—to wit, Petitions to the Mayor of Coventre, Bonds, Docquet Books, Freemen's Certificates &c., including a noteworthy Order of General Sessions of the Peace respecting a colourable and fraudulent apprenticeship—formerly belonging to the Company of "the Craftes of Carpynters, Tilers and Pinners."

The City of Coventry and the Duchy of Cornwall.

1620–1642.—Packet of receipts, in acknowledgment of half-yearly payments of 33*s.*, made by the Mayor, bailiffs, and comynaltie of the City of Coventre to successive Receivers-General of the Duchy of Cornwall, by way of rent due from the said Corporation for the mansion house, park, mill, &c. of the manor of Cheilesmore.

Hawkesbury Coal Mines.

1621–1664.—Large packet of leases, granted by the Mayor and Corporation in the years 1621, 1631, 1633, 1664 of lands in and about Hawkesbury in the parish of Sowe to divers tenants, who were empowered by their respective leases to dig raise and sell coals commonly called "ston-coale, sea-coale or pit-coale" from the "coale mynes, delphes and veynes of coale" in the said land.

These indentures should be examined by any writer who would produce a perfect account of the mines and mineral industries of the Midland counties.

Thomas Denne's Draft Plea on a *Quo Warranto*.

13 Charles I., 1637, February 12th.—Draft plea upon a *Quo Warranto* prepared for the city of Coventry on 255 sheets of paper by Thomas Denne, and "perused and approved" on the aforesaid day "as good in lawe and a sufficient answer" by the same Counsel: With copy of the *Quo Warranto*. Also, in the same packet, an Exemplification of "The Discharge in the Exchequer of the *Quo Warranto*, 1637."

Lord Chancellor Macclesfield's Decree respecting Sir Thomas White's Charity Estate.

11 George I. [1724–5].—Writ (on eleven large membranes) for the execution of a Decree, made by Lord Chancellor Macclesfield, ordering a reconveyance of Sir Thomas White's Charity Estate to the Mayor bailiffs and commonalty of the city of Coventry, together with all the said Corporation's rights in the said estate. Opening with a statement of the particulars of the grant of lands, tenements and rents, &c., formerly belonging to Guilds and Chantries in the city of Coventry, made to the said Corporation 19th July, 34 Henry VIII.

As the Letters Patent of Henry the Eighth's grant have passed from the hands of the Corporation, the student of the Coventry muniments should make a careful examination of the earlier portion of this lengthy document.

Bill and Papers of the Eighteenth Century, touching Cheylesmore Park and Coventry Charities.

1747–1780.—A collection of bills and documents touching Cheylesmore Park, and papers touching divers of the Coventry Charities.

Papers touching the Frankland Foundation at Catherine Hall, Cambridge.

1831.—Briefs, Affidavits, and other papers, in the matter of the Frankland Fellowship at Catherine Hall in the University of Cambridge. Founded by Mr. Frankland, for a person educated at Coventry school.

Ten Volumes of Dr. Troughton's Drawings.

19th Century.—These volumes of sketches of the picturesque antiquities of Coventry by one of the most notable of the city's recent worthies must not be left unnoticed. Dr. Troughton, an eminent physician in his native city of Coventry, was also an amateur artist and a zealous antiquary, who spent all his leisure gained by habitual early rising in delineating the antiquities of the place.

The new Muniment Room of St. Mary's Hall is not only a beautiful work of architecture, but in respect to space, light, ventilation and

furniture is so fine an example of what muniment rooms should be that it might well be regarded as a model for imitation in like cases.

In conclusion, the present reporter may observe that, whilst he was reducing the Coventry MSS. to order at the charges of the Town Council, he made a catalogue of them for the convenience of the custodians and the searchers of the multifarious evidences. Printed copies of this classified catalogue, which contains many matters that are unnoticed here, may be obtained from the Assistant-Curator of the muniments.

JOHN CORDY JEAFFRESON.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE EARL OF RADNOR, AT LONGFORD CASTLE, SALISBURY.

I. A fine folio volume, entitled "Registrum Hungerfordianum," containing copies of deeds, etc. relating to the Hungerfords and their possessions from the reign of John to that of Edward IV. The documents transcribed are arranged according to the places to which they refer, in the following order:—

Marston, Highworth, and Over and Nether Stratton, co. Wilts.
Cricklade, Bramshaw, &c. co. Wilts.
Britford, co. Wilts.
Trevego, co. Cornwall.
Winterbourne Stoke, co. Wilts.
St. Martin's in the Fields, and Charing Cross, co. Middlesex.
Mildenhall, co. Wilts.
Rushall, co. Wilts.
Chippenham, co. Wilts.
Heytesbury and Chippenham charities.
Luxfield prebend.
Upton Scudamore, Warminster and Rowleigh, alias Wittenham, cos. Wilts and Somerset.
Hungerford, Sandon and Charlton, cos. Berks and Wilts.
Britford, co. Wilts.
Heytesbury, co. Wilts.
Teffont Evias and Dalewood.
Wellow manor and hundred, co. Somerset.
Farleigh Mountford, co. Somerset.
Wellow.
Penheal, co. Cornwall.
Kilmersdon, co. Somerset.
Little Cheverell, co. Wilts.
Selwood forest, co. Somerset.
Farleigh Sloo and Buttesford, co. Somerset.
Farleigh Castle chantry, co. Somerset. (Translations of the documents relating to this chantry are given in Jackson's "Guide to Farley Hungerford.")

II. Fragment of a smaller Hungerford Chartulary of the fifteenth century.

III. A collection of original deeds and other documents of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries relating to the Hungerford family, many of which have very fine seals appended. Among them are the following:—

1416, August 28.—The '*Holigost*' on the Seine. Licence granted by John, Duke of Bedford, Earl of Richmond and Kendal, and Constable of England, of his own motion and against their desire, to Walter Hungerford, knight, and John Skillyng, esquire, to depart from his company and go home for the recovery of their healths.
French. Fragment of seal.

1433, April 1.—Farley Hungerford. Letters of Walter, Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury and of Homet, appointing his son Sir Robert Hungerford, knight, Sir John Stourton, knight, and four others "to entrete, appoynte, and finally conclude with John of Vendosme, knyght, vidasme of Charters, oure prisonere, and with his frenddes and servaunts for the finance, rauncon, and deliverance of oure said prisonere."

Signature and fragment of seal.

1449, July 24.—Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit, Walterus Hungerford, miles, dominus de Hungerford de Heytesbury et de Homet, Robertus Hungerford, miles, filius et heres apparens ejusdem Walteri, ac Robertus Hungerford, dominus de Molyns, filius et heres apparens predicti Roberti filii predicti Walteri, salutem in Domino. Noveritis nos manumisisse, remisisse, relaxasse et per presentes liberasse Willelmum Smelyn, nativum nostrum pertinentem ad manerium nostrum de Heytesbury in comitatu Wilts, cum tota sequela sua imposterum sive in futuro procreanda cum totis bonis facultatibus et catallis suis, et ipsum Willelmum per presentes liberum fecisse, et ab omni jugo et servitute nacvitatis, villenagii sive bondagii plenius liberasse per presentes, ita quod nec nos nec heredes nostri nec aliquis alius per nos sive nomine nostro in predictum Willelmum aliquid juris, clamei, tituli, actionis sive demandi racione premissorum habere, exigere, clamare, vel vendicare poterimus, set per presentes de ipso Willelmo imperpetuum sumus exclusi. In cujus rei testimonium sigilla nostra apposuimus. Datum in castro de Farley Hungerford, vicesimo quarto die mensis Julii anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum Anglie vicesimo septimo."

Signed "Hungerford" and "R. H. le Molyns."—*Fragments of three seals.*

1527, March 22.—Agreement between Sir William Sandys, knight, Lord Sandys, Lord Chamberlain, and Walter Hungerford esquire, son and heir of Edward Hungerford knight, late deceased, for a marriage between the latter and Alice, one of the daughters of the former, before the feast of the Ascension. Walter Hungerford undertakes to settle manors and lands to the yearly value of 100*l.* Lord Sandys undertakes to pay 600 marks, viz. 400 at the day of marriage, and 200 at Michaelmas following. He also undertakes to find meat and drink for such as shall happen to be at the marriage. He further undertakes to "gyve to the saide Water for the daye of the saide maryage one gowne of crymson velwet and one other gowne of blacke velwet, one jacket of blacke velwet and one other jacket of blacke satten, one dublet of crymson satten and one other dublet of blacke satten," and to give to his daughter for the day of the said marriage "one gowne of crymson velwet and one other gowne of blacke velwet, one kirtyll of crymson sattyn and one other of blacke satten, and all other ornaments as to the bed of the said Alice for the said daye of mariage shall appertayne."

IV. Rentals, bailiffs' accounts, and ancient deeds, relating to places mostly near Folkestone, co. Kent:—

Ackhanger, Ackridge, Alkham, Broadmead, Bourne, Buckland, Cheriton, Clynton, Comb, Cliff, Capel [le Ferne], Dommert, Elham, Folkestone, Flaggs, Halton, Hawkinge, Hougham, Houghton, Hythe, Hopton, Ingles, Luddenham, Moorhall, Norton, Newington, Romney marsh, Sandgate, Swingfield, Terlingham, Walton, Wolverton.

V. Court Rolls:—

Folkestone hundred, Terlingham, Walton, Wolverton, Halton, Ackhanger, Newington, Belhouse, Dommert.

VI.—A volume containing original letters :—

[1536?] Nov. 4.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford of Haytesbery. "Thiese shalbe to advertise the same that I ha[ve] resceyved your lettres with the deposicions and confessions of certayne persones and a boke wherin was writen amonges other thynges certayne prophecies, accordyng to your lettres. And for your good procedynges in that behalfe ye have assuredly deserved of the Kynges Highnes right harty and condigne thankes. And wher ye have commetted Richard Sole and Richard Spicer to prison ye have done very well therin, requyryng you they may remayne ther in saff and sure custodie and kepyng untill suche tyme as ye shalbe further advertised of the Kynges pleasure in that behalfe." Wyndesore, 4 Nov. *Signed.*

[1537?]—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford of Haytesbury.—"Wher as before this tyme upon your advertisement of the mysdemeanour of Sir Thomas Beese, clerke, vicar of Southstoke in the county of Somerset, I required you to commyt him to warde to the next gaole. And forasmoche as the said vicar hathe sufficient sureties bounde for hym that he shalbe furthecommyng to answer to soche thynges as shalbe layd agaynst hym on the Kynges behalfe, I require you, cailing unto you somme other discrete persone, beyng one of the Kynges Justices of the Peax to exammyne the truthe of the matier whiche is layde agaynst the sayd vicar with the circumstaunces therof by all the ways and meanes ye convenyently may; and to advertise me therof when ye shall have oportunyte therto. Requiryng you farther upon the receipt herof to cause the sayd vicar to be put at his libertie and to be delivered out of prison."—Stebenhithe, 6 July. *Signed.*

[1537,] October 12, Hampton Court.—The Queen (Jane Seymour) to Lord Hungerford.—"By the Queene. Right trustie and welbiloved we grete youe well. And forasmuche as by the inestimable goodnes and grace of Almighty God we be delivred and brought in child bed of a prince conceyved in moost laufull matrimoney betwene my lord the Kynges Majesty and us, doubting not but that, for the love and affection which ye beare unto us and to the commyn wealth of this hole realme, the knoweledge thereof shuld be joyous and glad tydinges unto youe, we have thought good to certifie youe of the same, to thintent ye might not only rendre unto God condigne thankes and praise for soo gret a benifite but also continually pray for the long contynuaunce and preservacion of the same here in this lief, to the honour of God, joye and pleasyr of my lord the King and us and the universall weale, quiet and tranquillitye of this hole realme. Yevyn undir our Signet, at my Lordes manour of Hamptoncourte the xij day of Octobre."

[1536-40, probably 1538,] April 7, St. James.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford.—"Thies shalbe to advertise you that havyng receved your lettres of the 27th of Marche, I declared the same unto the Kinges Highnes who takes the same very thankefully and in good parte. Willing and desiring you further to examyne aswell the same William Yrishe as all others that were present att the speking of the wordes by you in your sayd lettres mencioned. Upon what grounde or occasion, to what intent and effect, what moved hym therunto, what tyme and place and under what manerand affect he spake those wordes, with as moche diligence and maturitie as ye maye. And that doon to certifie me of your said examinacion with spede, wherupon ye shalbe further adcertayned of the Kinges Highnes pleasure howe the said person shalbe further ordered in that behalf, praying you in the meane tyme to see the same kept in sure warde accordingly.—*Signed.*

[1538,] September 21, Penshurst.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford.—"By your lettres of the 16th of this present delivered unto me by this berer your servaunt, I perceyve the cancred malice of Richard Henly agenst the Kinges supreme auctorite for the usurped power of the grete ydole of Rome I commende moche your good diligence and vigilancy in your proceding used in that behalf, Requiring you that at the next commyng in that countrey of the Justices of Assise ye cause him to be indicted and further processe to be made agenst hym, so that he may be, to the terrible exemple of like presumptuouse and trayterouse persons, punished according to his demerites as the lawe right and justice do require. As touching [the] proctor of the Charthuse whereof ye be stuarde, my mynde was never by my lettres nor otherwise expressed that he shuld contynewe there onles he be of such fidilite to the house in the good administracon of his office and of such honest conversacon both towardes them and other as apperteyneth. And in cas he be so or if he hath ben otherwise and woll ernestly emende, I wold be glad he myght contynewe there according to myn intercession bifore made for hym. If he be not so honestly disposed, I woll in nowise support hym but rather wold be sory that he shuld hynder the house or contynewe therein to the slaunder of the countrey. Concerning your mater betwene my lord of Huntingdon and you, I shalbe content at all tymes to employe meself ernestly to bring you togeder, and to be a meane that both your titles may be shewed and loked upon, and so to assaye to my power that the right title maye prevaile and you to remayne good freendes at the last. At his next cummyng hither, I woll be in hande with hym for the same in such wise that I trust ye shal have your right conserved as to right and conscience shal apparteyne and as ye shal have cause to be contented."
Signed.

[1538?] November 11. London.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford. "Whereas by your lettres of the vjth of this present sent unto me by this berer, your servaunt, I do perceave that nowe lately you have committed to prison a prest called Sir Richard Henry for certain traiterouse and sedicioune wordes spoken by him, as more at large appeareth by a bill of articles sent unto me with your saied lettres; Thiese shalbe to signifie unto you the Kinges Highnes pleasour is that the sayd prest do still remayn in warde untill the commyng downe of the Judges in Eyre who shall at the next Assise there to be holden by speciall commission here and examyne the saied articles and so determyne the same as justice shall require in that bihalf. And as concerninge the matier in variaunce betwixt you and my lorde of Huntington, you shall undrestand that oone of the arbitrators elected and chosen to here and examyne the same is departed this worlde, yet nevertheles I doubte not but that I with the rest of the saied arbitratours shall at laysour and tyme convenient take such ordre and directions therin as shall be to your good satisfaction."

[1539,] July. Oatlands.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford of Haytesbery. "Havyng receyved your letters wherin ye write of the mysdemeanor of one Sir Nicholas Balam prest, late monk of Henton, wherin myne advise shalbe that ye shall commyt him to the gaole till the commyng of the Justices of Assise into those parties and to declare the matier unto theym with the circumstaunces therof to thentent the[y] may order that [m]at[ter] according to their discrecions and as n
with the Kin[ges] law[e]s equite and justice I ha[ve per]used your bo deposicions taken agaynst [Hen]ry Champ[ernon ? t]o be delivered to Mr. Chauncel[lor] of the Aug[ment]acions, bicause the

mater apper[tei]neth to tha[t cour]t, to thentent he may procede t[herin] as the ca[se sh]all require. Furthermore I h[ave] writen u[nto M]aister Arundell if any injury hathe byn done unto you, to see you satisfied for the same as [a]mite and conscience shall require, [and] I doubt [not he] will do therin accordyngly. [And to]uching your [req]uest for purchas of the manor of He[nton] and other [land]es of the same I shalbe glad to fu[rther] you therin when the tyme shall serve."

Signed.

[1540.] Feb. 9. London.—Thomas Crumwell to Lord Hungerford of Haytesburye. "Thies be for asmoche as the Kinges Majestie hathe ben enformed that certaine lycences, foundacions and other wrytynges belongyng unto the late priory of Charterhous Henton and graunted by Thomas Horton, clothier, and other hathe ben ymbeysled and conveyd away by certaine persons. The Kinges Majesties pleasure is that ye, calling Dame Mary Horton wydow, Thomas Horton, William Byrde clerke, Richard Davis, and Sir William Furber clerke, before you shall examyne theim and every of theym by vertue of an othe to be admynestred to theym by you of and uppon the premysses with the circumstaunces therof by all the wayes and meanes ye can or may excogitate and devise. And to advertise me of that ye shall fynd and knowe therin with all convenyent spede, to thentent I may cause suche order and direction to be had and taken in that behalf as the case shall requyre. Faile ye not thus to do as the Kinges trust and expectacion ys in you."—*Signed.*

April 9.—The Earl of Hertford to Lord Hungerford.

I am informed that you pretend a title to a chantry in Chippenham of which you are trying to procure a surrender by the incumbent. The patronage of it belongs to me and you have no interest therein as I will prove save by an advowson the circumstances of which I leave till our meeting. If you persist and wade further in the matter, I doubt not you shall take the fall.

From my house near London.

1615. October 31. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the Mayors of Ports, Rear Admirals, Searchers, &c.

Pass to permit Edward Hungerford Esq. to travel with two men beyond the seas for three years for his better experience and knowledge in the languages provided he repair not to Rome without his Majesty's leave.

1638, Nov. 9.—The Lords of the Council to the high sheriff of Wilts. His majesty having sent his writ to the high sheriffs of Wilts and Gloucestershire and to the mayors and head officers of the corporate towns within the same counties, to provide one ship of 350 tons besides tonnage, to be furnished with 140 men, tackle, munition, victual and other necessaries to be set forth for the safeguard of the seas at the charge of the said counties and corporate towns; and having commanded them to assess the contributions to the same within fifty days of date of receipt, the sheriff is required to order the business according to the following instructions which are to be communicated to the mayors and head officers of the corporate towns of Wilts.

1. The sheriff to be only of the quorum, but in case of unequal or unfair rating carried by a plurality of votes the sheriff to have power to balance that inequality, so as not to be overruled by the major votes to the prejudice of the county which is the greater body. The sheriff withal not using this power to the favour of the county against the towns or of one town against another.

2. That you meet with the sheriff and head officers of Gloucestershire to assess the two counties respectively. And for your information we find that one ship manned and furnished as above will be 4,200*l.* whereof we think Wilts should bear 2,200*l.* and Gloucestershire 2,000*l.* And in the county of Wilts we consider New Sarum should bear 90*l.* the borough and town of Marlborough 25*l.* the borough of Devizes £18 the borough of Chippenham 12*l.* and the borough of Welton 2*l.* and the rest of the county the residue of the 2,200*l.*

These rates we wish observed rather than have any difference of opinion among you which would retard the service. But if for greater equality and from more local knowledge, the major part of you agree to a different rating and the sheriff assent, we are content your rating shall stand.

3. Having agreed on the assessment, you should subdivide the same and make the particular assessments in such sort as other common payments upon the county or corporate towns are most usually subdivided and assessed, viz. the sheriff to divide the whole charge on the county into hundreds, lathes or other divisions, and those into parishes and towns, and the towns and parishes must be rated by the houses and lands lying within each parish or towns, as is accustomed in other common payments payable by them respectively.

And whereas his majesty takes notice that in former assessments, notwithstanding the express order from our letters to ease the poor, there have been assessed towards this service poor cottagers and others who have nothing to live on but their daily work, which can only have been done to raise clamour and of prejudice against this service, his Majesty's command is that no persons be assessed unless they be known to have estates and money or goods or other means of livelihood than daily labour. When you find such poor men taxed you are to take it off. Further, rich men occupying little or no land and who as an ordinary land scot, would pay little or nothing, are to be rated according to their worth and ability. Such rating to be used for the easing of the poor or of such as are overcharged with children or debts. The like course to be in the corporate towns. And herein you are to have more than ordinary care and regard whereby to prevent complaints of inequality in the assessments, wherewith we were much troubled last year.

4. For more easy and better proceeding herein, the sheriff, after having rated the several hundreds lathes and divisions of the county, is to send forth warrants to the constables, requiring them to call unto them some of the most discreet and sufficient men of every parish town or tithing, so as to assess the hundred most equally, certifying the same to you with all speed, which assessment you, the sheriff, are to sign if you approve thereof. If for inequality you alter the assessment, you are to sign it, keeping a true copy, and order the speedy levying of the same by the constables of hundreds, petty constables, and others usually so employed.

If any one returned to you are refusing or neglecting payment, you are to execute the writ upon them, causing distress to be taken of them and to be sold for payment of their assessments, rendering back the overplus. The mayors and head officers to do the like for the corporate towns, observing the usual distributions by wards parishes and otherwise.

In the said assessment both sheriff and mayors are to express particularly how much every clergyman is rated for his mere ecclesiastical possessions and what for his temporal and personal estate.

The whole assessment is to be certified to the council within one month of its being made.

5. Concerning the assessment of the clergy, his Majesty is resolved to maintain their privileges as under his progenitors, but as it has not been sufficiently shown to us what privileges have been aforetime allowed them in payments of this nature, for the present you are to assess them like the rest of his majesty's subjects but with due respect to their persons and calling, not suffering any inequalities or pressure to be put upon them. If any clergyman find himself justly grieved, upon complaint to his diocesan or Chancellor you with some of them shall hear the complaint, and relieve him if there be cause. If the complaint is altogether frivolous and causeless, the diocesan to punish the complainant.

6. Any constables bailiffs or other officers refusing or neglecting their duties to be bound over to answer their neglect at the board, and in case they decline to give such good bond you are to commit them until they give bond or perform their duties; you taking special care in the meantime of the due leyying as required of you, and by such instruments as in the default of the constables and ordinary officers you like best.

7. You are to frequently call for an accompt from the constables, officers and others, and in case of refractory or dilatory persons you are presently without delay or respect to proceed roundly with them according to his majesty's writ, and not defer meddling with them to the last or until others have paid, as was done by some sheriffs in former years, whereby all the burden and trouble was cast upon the end of the year and those that were refractory gained time above the well affected.

Lastly you are to accomplish this service with speed, that the money may be timely paid in and the fleet furnished by the date expressed in the writ. For assure yourself that whatsoever you shall leave unlevied during your shrievalty will not be cast on your successor, as in former years some sheriffs expected and therefore retarded the service. Such arrears to be levied by yourself after the end of your year by warrant from your successor, or such other covenant as shall be found most behoveful.

All moneys collected to be paid by you from time to time at London to the Treasurer of the Navy for the time being.

You shall also from time to time call on the mayors and chief magistrates of the corporations to pay similarly to the treasurer or to you to be included in your payments.—*Seventeen signatures.*

1638, November 30. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the present High Sheriff of Wilts and the High Sheriff for 1637.

Upon a review of the accounts for ship money levied on the writs for 1637, in spite of our exhortations, we find an arrear of 205*l.* 8*s.* By his Majesty's special command, we require from the sheriff of last year upon pain of severe proceeding to be had against you to pay to Sir William Russell K^t^, Treasurer of the Navy, what you have collected and not paid in and to assess and levy the residue by distress or otherwise as by the said writ of 1637. For which purpose we require and authorise you the present High Sheriff to give warrant to your predecessor for that purpose, or to such meet persons as he shall present to you to be employed by him in that service from whom only his Majesty doth expect an accompt for his own year. Said arrears to be collected and paid in by the beginning of Candlemas term. In case of default, you

are to attend this board on the second Friday of Candlemas term, to give an account why the same is not levied and paid in.

1639, April 30. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. On consideration of the slow coming in of ship money this year and of the proceedings of sheriffs in former years, we find it a great error that they laid the work upon the constables, and further delayed to levy distress on the refractory till late in the year, when it was most troublesome to levy.

To prevent this in you, we refer you to the instructions formerly received from this board. If any constable prove negligent, you shall perform the service in your own person or by competent deputy, and be careful not to defer executing his Majesty's writ on the refractory. Negligent constables shall be punished upon complaint from you. Lastly you are to pay what money you levy to the Treasurer of the Navy once every fortnight.

1639, December 1. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. By his Majesty's writ, you are to provide one ship of 560 tons besides tonnage to be furnished with men tackle munition victual and necessaries, assessing the county and corporate towns for the same by the advice of the mayors and officers.

The charge of a ship of that burden so manned and furnished will be 7000*l.* We conceive that New Sarum may well bear 192*l.* the borough and town of Marlborough 60*l.* the borough of Devizes 50*l.* the borough of Chippenham 30*l.* the borough of Wilton 5*l.* The residue to be assessed upon the rest of the county.

As you shall herein perform your duty with diligence you shall not only receive favour and thanks from his Majesty but an allowance of 6*d.* in the pound at the end of your performance of this service.

[A long paper of instructions to the sheriff and verbatim with that of 9 Nov. 1638, with the above noted variations.]

1639–40, January 12.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. Sheriffs are to use all possible diligence in the speedy levying of ship money, in accordance with the writs issued in November last, more than ordinary diligence to hasten his fleet to sea being desirable this year. All money received to be paid to the Treasurer of the Navy by the 20 [? Febru]ary next. An account of the sheriff's proceedings in the matter to be given to the Council at the same time.

1639, February 21. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts for 1638. There is an arrear of shipmoney charged upon the county during the year of your shrievalty, for the levying and bringing in of which you have been several times called on by letters of this board, yet we find your negligence therein is still the same. If all arrears of your shrievalty are not levied and paid in by the end of the first week of next term, it is already resolved and declared by the board, and directions are accordingly given to the attorney, to proceed against you by information in the Star Chamber.

1639–40, March 5. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. Complaining of neglect of the previous commands of January 12. Require sheriff either to provide a vessel as prescribed by the writ by the first of April next or otherwise by the same time to levy and pay in to the Treasurer of the Navy the whole sum required in that behalf. Failing this, it is resolved and ordered by the board, his Majesty being present in Council, that a round and

exemplary proceeding shall be had against you according to your demerits.

1640, May 11. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. You have been frequently importuned to levy and pay in ship money. His Majesty's occasions for defence of the kingdom are more rather than less pressing. These frequent admonitions add weight to your default and contempt. If you pay not in at least one half of the money due from the county by the last of this month, and the other half by the 24th of June next, you must expect to feel a smart punishment.

1640. June 6. Whitehall.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. We have desired the Lord Chamberlain of the Household and the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Wilts to impart some particulars to you concerning his Majesty's service. By his Majesty's express command, you are not to fail to meet his Lordship at Marlborough on Tuesday night next June 9th, where you shall understand more particularly the cause hereof.

Postscript.—You are also to take especial care that the High Constables of the several Hundreds attend the Lord Lieutenant at Marlborough with all speed for his further directions.

Endorsed.—"Hast, hast, post hast. Post at peril. For his Majesty's especial service.

[With notes of postage thus]—Charing Cross 1 o'clock p.m. Basingstoke 2 in the afternoon. Andover past 6 in the afternoon.

1640, May 27. Whitehall.—The King to the High Sheriff of Wilts. By the writ of 1639, you had to provide from Wiltshire a ship of 560 tons, or the equivalent charge thereof 7000*l.* by the first of April last which you have hitherto neglected. You are at once to levy the said 7000*l.* or so much of it as is unpaid and deliver it to the Treasurer of the Navy in accordance with instructions of 11 May and this upon peril of incurring the uttermost of such forfeitures and punishments as by the laws may be inflicted upon you for so high contempt and misdemeanour.

1640, October 21.—The Lords of the Council to the High Sheriff of Wilts. On a review of the ship money accounts for Wilts, we find much more money has been levied than you have paid in to the Treasurer of the Navy on the writ of 1639. You are forthwith to pay in the same and further to recover from the collectors all sums in hand returning to us the names of such collectors as refuse to pay to you or otherwise attending this board yourself to answer your neglect at your peril.

1640, June 6. Whitehall.—The Earl of Pembroke to John Duke of Lake, Esq. High Sheriff of Wilts. You are to attend me at Marlborough on Tuesday next the 9th instant at the latest as I myself intend to be at Runsbney on Monday. You are there to receive and put in execution such directions as I shall give you for the composing of the present disorders which have arisen in Wilts on the levying of the soldiers and the raising of coal and conduct moneys for this northern expedition.

1644, October 17. The King to the Mayor and Aldermen of Salisbury.—"Whereas wee are thus farre advanced with our Army, having by God's great providence and assistance freed the Westerne parts of this our kingdome from the tyranny and oppression of the Rebells and left our good people therein in a peaceable condition, whereby wee have

received evident testimonyes of their good affection and inclination to the advancement of our service by their free and voluntary contributions and loanes of money, which in proportion wee doe expect from you. And therefore wee doe hereby will and require you forthwith to assemble togeather and by assesse or any other wayes to rayse and provide within this Citty upon the inhabitants thereof the full somme of five hundred pounds, and to pay the same without delay tomorrow morning by sixe of the clocke unto our trusty and welbeloved servant John Ashburnham esq. our Treasurer at warr for the necessary use and supply of our Army. Herein wee are well assured you will bee so active as that wee may not fayle of the somme required, it being very little in proportion to what wee have received from other places of equal ability with this. So Wee bid you farewell, this 17th October 1644."

Signed by Edward Walker, *and by* Charles I.

1673–4, February 19, Lakham. J. Montagu to Edward Hungerford at Hungerford house in the Strand. I desired of my cousin Johnson an account of Sir Samuel Morland's pump and described to him mine, which is thus : a pipe or barrel as in other pumps in which a spindle is placed having a screw about it at the bottom. The quick turning of this screw brings up the water with ease. I drew the invention simply for use on my own estate. As to the public concern in the matter and in the grant of privilege which it appears parliament is like to grant Sir Samuel, you can judge better than I.

1673–4, February 21, Lakham. J. Montagu to Giles Hungerford. I answered your last the same morning. As to Sir Samuel Morland's engine, I am not his rival. I desire only to have undisturbed use of my own lands for the benefit of my estate of that way of raising water which I have thought of and have a model of by me. I wrote to this effect to my cousin Johnson fearing Sir Samuel's method and mine might be alike, though I have not the least hint of what kind his invention is. As to the public concern you say there is an intention of excluding all other devices of the sort of Sir Samuel's. There will need a short act of parliament for this as no engine can be made which has not in it something of another. If you speak only of the principal fact of the invention the claim is reasonable. That device I have chanced upon may be as advantageous as his. It has its whole power in the force of a whirling or vertigenous motion, a principle which could be applied to many machines even for flying. I chanced upon it by considering of the nature of a screw and as to raising water by it had a hint from an ordinary experiment of turning water swiftly round in a glass, and by the observation of waterspouts. I neither know nor envy Sir Samuel Morland and write only to show you that parliament should be wary in things of this nature. It is a question whether it were better to pay projectors a sum down for inventions, as I am told they do in Holland rather than grant them sole use.

My wife and my mother send their services to you.

VII.—A History of Longford written by Mr. Pellatt, domestic chaplain to Lord Coleraine about 1670. Most of the materials are derived from printed sources, but the following extract seems to deserve quotation :—

Mem.—Lord Gorges sold Longford to Lord Coleraine.—However the said Lord Coleraine was content to sit down a great loser both by the dealing before mentioned, and by the unhappy times which immediately succeeded the era of his Longford purchase, for, after the

disbursement of 18000*l.* besides continual expenses for the trimming up of his lordship's new bargain, according to the kind opinion he had of it, his Lordship enjoyed it little above four years, by reason his Majesty thought fit to make a horse garrison thereof, and according to his Majesty's order it was given up by his Lordship in April 1644.

His Lordship having too great a family of young children (to abide with them amongst soldiers) and too much of his other estate under sequestration, because he remained in the King's quarters, was now thrust upon such a dilemma as to find it equally difficult to him both to stay at his beloved seat or to go from it, though there were nothing but trenches, rude soldiers, ruins and dangers left about it. However he affected the place so much and had already ventured so far concerning it, as that his Lordship was resolved not to go farther from his darling then like the damsel in the wilderness from hers, but keep within sight of it as long as was possible to view it not quite ruined, or to hope that it might be preserved though by a miracle of providence. Hereupon my Lord of Coleraine, with his great little family, got into an unspeakable small house at Burtford (then rented by his steward) and there they attended the fate of Longford, not without daily fears and dangers in respect of their own persons and people as of that place, for there were such continual quartering of soldiers, sometimes of one side and sometimes of the other, such frequent alarms and violences from both parties, that the hazards and troubles of those times were as monstrous as they are now unexpressible, and, thanks be to God, are not known amongst us. After the Lord of Coleraine had stayed as much to his prejudice as inconvenience (in so strait a place out of his own house yet to near it) (and out of zeal to his Majesty's service) endured the barbarous usage of the Governor, who kept most of his household stuff and the stock on the ground from his Lordship, which was all that my Lord had then left in the country wherewith to provide for his family. There was no tempting patience further then the next degree which his Lordship arrived at, and that was first to see his brewhouse and all that great and handsome range of out offices set on fire purposely, though happily saved from the flames and not quite ruined by them, next the curious pigeon house, and fair stables quite pulled down or unnecessarily burnt, upon a mere spiteful intent to dismantle the comeliness as well as strengths of the place, and then the leaden pipes and cisterns that conveyed the water from the pump house taken all away together with the building, the stone bridges to the house broken and the timber felled and everything so altered, as to make it another Samnium to be inquired after in the midst of itself. In the mean time, as the place was new modelling so it continued, expensive and costly now not more to his Lordship's peculiar revenue, then to all the neighbourhood while the garrison found the country work, that the country might be made to pay it contribution, the house was turned into a den of thieves, and his Lordship had no heart to look after it any longer, but getting leave of the King to go out of the west then the chief seat of the war his Lordship arrived with great difficulty at Totteridge in Hertfordshire, and with small hope that Longford should escape an utter ruin.

But it pleased God after the fatal battle at Naseby, that Oliver Cromwell in his triumphal passage, having taken in Basinghouse and Winchester Castle (marching towards the Devizes), thought fit to summon in Longford* by the way, and Longford not only escaped his

* If surrendered to him as soon as he had finished his battery in Pick Mead, against the garden front, Oct. 18, 1645.

fury, but was likely to have given a deserved bloody death to that too prosperous and sanguine tyrant. For while he with some few officers were viewing where they might best storm or batter the house, a shot from thence killed the very next man to Cromwell (being a captain lieutenant), and had done worthier execution had it took him off too, but Nemesis followed this Attila this *flagellum Dei*), with more leaden heels and reserved him for greater mischiefs. As perhaps his escaping so strangely before this place made the place likewise escape so strangely from destruction, since he left no marks of his flaming appearance behind him, only smoked out the nests of hornets which were hived within the walls, and had rather gulled their own party, then helped it by their company. For all this it fared with poor Longford no otherwise then with that Dæmoniack, who after it had been exorcised was quickly repossessed by viler devils then formerly haunted it, for instead of soldiers of fortune, and some honest cavaliers, there were put in by order of Parliament a knavish committee of clowns of neither fortune nor understanding, who first pillaged the house of whatsoever the former guests had left, or could be torn from doors, or walls, or windows, and then moved the Parliament that the house should be slighted for being a dangerous place.

It is true it never deserved ruin, more then for not tumbling down upon such villains, but since its *lares* were unwillingly deflowered by these ravishers, it was no more guilty then a virgin that is abused after her lodging is broken into, and so escaped according to her merits for (by a special proviso put in by a good neighbour and friend) it was excepted out of the number of those houses that were to be dismantled and pulled down for fear of future wars and garrisons.

After this (its greatest escape), it was cleared from the pretensions of some of the Lord Gorges' kinsmen, by the just payment of 2,000*l.* sterling to them from the present Right Honourable Richard, Lord Gorges, who worthily deserves an eulogy for doing that honour to his name and parent, as to pay moneys out of his own means rather then his Lord father should appear unjust.

As the storms of civil dissension broke away, and our days cleared up by degrees, my Lord Coleraine, having weathered so many difficult points both as to law and conscience as had greatly impoverished his estate (not only by the loss of great sums of money and chargeable law suits, but by his absence from his chief rents, his actual delinquency and sequestration, his being plundered both at Longford and Totteridge, and afterwards highly taxed and decimated for not taking covenants and engagements. After this, I say, his Lordship's desire and delight returned again for Longford, which for some years before he looked not to see again, but in rubbish, and then, like Nehemiah, he was impatient till he had begun a repair.

Revisiting this house (circa anno 1650) to see what his egregious tenants on both sides (agreed to prejudice him) had left behind, his Lordship was saluted with nothing but filthiness and desolation, except it were an infinite swarm of fleas, that pitched upon his white boot-hose, there was no other living creature left for him, who was forced to leave behind him (when he went out of the house) a gallant dairy of Dutch cows, a great flock of wethers, yards full of poultry, and barns stored with provisions, yet was he nobly satisfied, that (being his master and all true subjects had suffered so deeply) his condition was no worse, though I have often heard him say that he had lost 40,000*l.* sterling by the troublesome times, and had all his delights impared not less then his estate.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF ANDREW KINGSMILL, ESQ.

The manuscripts at Sydmonton Court consist almost exclusively of ancient deeds relating to places in Hampshire and Berkshire.

Litchfield, co. Hants.—Among the persons named are William de Echingham, knight, and Eva his wife, and Sir Edward de Sancto Johanne, 8 Edw. II.; Edward de Sancto Johanne, 10 Edw. II.; William de Sancto Johanne, 11 Edw. II.; Sir John Milns, rector of the church of Lydeschulv, 17 Edw. II.; John de Sent Johan and Edward de Sent Johan and Joan his wife, 39 Edw. III.; John de Sancto Johanne and Edward de Sancto Johanne, his kinsman, 43 Edw. III.; Sir Edward de Sancto Johanne, lord of Stopham, and Joan his wife, 48 Edw. III.; Edward, son of John de Sancto Johanne, 49 Edw. III.; William Knyth, rector of Ludshulve, 2 Hen. V.; William de Sancto Johanne, lord of Ludeshelf, 2 Hen. V.; John Hende, rector of Ludshulfe, 5 Hen. V.; John Pury, esquire, and Isabel his wife, 31 Hen. VI.; Richard Kyngesmyll and John his son, 21 Hen. VII.

Whitchurch, co. Hants.—Among the persons named are Sir John Persones, vicar of the church of Godeworth, 29 Edw. III.; John Kyngesmyll, serjeant-at-law, and Joan his wife, 13 Hen. VII.

Sonning and *Early*, co. Berks.—Among the persons named is John de Erle, late son and heir of Sir Bartholomew de Erle, knight, 11 Edw. II.

Hurst, co. Berks.—Among the persons named are Adam le Yonge of Berkham and Alice his wife, 21 Edw. I.; Adam, son of John de Kingesmille, 20 Edw. III.; Adam Kyngesmulle of Bercham and Elizabeth his wife and William their son, 23 Edw. III.; John Kyngesmell and William his son and Joan his wife, daughter of John Dyk, 15 Ric. II.; William Kyngesmyll, son and heir of John Kyngesmyll of Berkham, deceased, 7 Hen. V.; Richard Kyngesmyll, gentleman, 21 Hen. VII.

Barkham, co. Berks.—Among the persons named are William de Nevile, lord of Bercham, John Kyngesmull of Bercham; Adam his son and Elizabeth his wife, 11 Edw. III.; Richard Bernard of Erburghfeld, Christina his wife and Joan his daughter, A.D. 1384; Thomas Kyngesmyll, gentleman, son and heir of William Kyngesmyll of Bercham, deceased, and Richard Kyngesmyll, gentleman, his brother, 16 Edw. IV.

Settlement in prospect of a marriage between John Kyngesmyll, son and heir of Richard Kyngesmyll of Basingstoke, gentleman, and Joan daughter of John Gyffard of Ichyll co. Hants, 5 Hen. VII.

Licence from Richard, bishop of Winchester, to John Kyngesmyll and Joan his wife, of Frefolk, to have mass and other divine offices celebrated in a suitable place in their house or elsewhere in the diocese. 11 December 1501.

Contract for the roof of the church of Hartley Wintney, co. Hants, as follows :—

"Hec convencio facta inter dominam Johannam Bannebury, Priorissam domus de Wyntenay, et ejusdem loci conventus ex una parte, et Johannem Willam, carpenter, de Basyngstoke, et Willelmum Austyn, carpenter, de eadem, ex altera parte, testatur quod predicti Johannes et Willelmus fabricabunt, facient et de novo edificabunt unum tectum supra ecclesiam de Wynteney predicta, quod quidem tectum erit *Flatterove* et in eodem erunt ix trabes cum platis proporcionatis secundum longitudinem et latitudinem ecclesie *Playn werke*, et eciam de novo facient et edificabunt ibidem supra tectum unum campanile de quatuor postis cum *Flatterove*, infra certum tempus ita quod plene perficietur citra festum Sancte Marie Magdalene proxime sequentem post datam presencium, et eadem Priorissa serabit omnes tabilos ad idem pertinentes sumptibus suis propriis, et eadem Priorissa inveniet meremium sufficientem et succidet et cariabit ad certum locum ubi fabricabunt, ita quod non impediantur idem Johannes et Willelmus nec illorum servientes, et predicti Johannes et Willelmus percipient pro labore suo xxij libras Anglicane monete et unum porcum et unum multonem et unam gounam precii x^s vel x^s in denariis, et cum levaverint predictum tectum predicta Priorissa inveniet idem (*sic*) Johannem carpenter et sex homines in victualibus per septimanam, et predicta Priorissa inveniet cordas et machinas et propriis expensis vacuabit antiquum tectum, et parietes ad eandem (*sic*) pertinentes patere faciet, et idem Johannes et Willelmus percipient cum ceperint operare x libras et postmodum cum ceperint framare vj libras, deinde cum levaverint predictum tectum vj libras, et idem Johannes et Willelmus habebunt aysiamenta domus pro eis et servientibus suis, una cum diversis utensiliis ad parandum victum sibi et servientibus suis, et ad istas convenciones bene et fideliter observandas et componendas Willelmus Shyrefelde et Rogerus Richerd obligant se et quemlibet eorum heredes et executores suos eisdem Priorisse et conventui in xxij libris solvendis eisdem, et ex altera parte predicta Johanna Priorissa et ejusdem loci conventus obligant se et successores eisdem Willelmo Shyrefelde et Rogero Richard heredibus et assignatis suis in xxij libris solvendis. In cujus rei testimonium presentibus indenturis partes predicte sigilla sua apposuerunt. Datum apud Wynteney in festo exaltacionis Sancte Crucis anno regni regis Henrici Quinti post conquestum Anglie tercio." *Small fragment of seal.*

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Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint under Her Sign Manual certain Commissioners to ascertain what unpublished MSS. are extant in the collections of private persons and in institutions which are calculated to throw light upon subjects connected with the civil, ecclesiastical, literary, or scientific history of this country. The present Commissioners are:—

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The Commissioners think it probable that you may feel an interest in this object and be willing to assist in the attainment of it; and with that view they desire to lay before you an outline of the course which they usually follow.

If any nobleman or gentleman express his willingness to submit any unprinted book, or collection of documents in his possession or custody to the examination of the Commissioners, they will cause an inspection to be made by some competent person, and should the MSS. appear to come within the scope of their enquiry, a report containing copies or abstracts of them will be drawn up, printed, and submitted to the owner, with a view to obtaining his consent to the publication of the whole, or of such part of it as he may think fit, among the proceedings of the Commission, which are presented to Parliament every Session.

To avoid any possible apprehension that the examination of papers by the Commissioners may extend to title-deeds or documents of present legal value, positive instructions are given to every person who inspects MSS. on their behalf that nothing relating to the titles of existing owners is to be divulged, and that if in the course of his work any modern title-deeds or papers of a private character chance to come before him, they are to be instantly put aside, and are not to be examined or calendared under any pretence whatever.

The object of the Commission is solely the discovery of unknown historical and literary materials, and in all their proceedings the Commissioners will direct their attention to that object exclusively.

In practice it has been found more satisfactory, when the collection of manuscripts is a large one, for the inspector to make a selection therefrom at the place of deposit and to obtain the owner's consent to remove the selected papers to the Public Record Office in London, where they can be more fully dealt with, and where they are preserved with the same care as if they formed part of the muniments of the realm, during the term of their examination. Among the numerous owners of MSS. who have allowed their family papers of historical interest to be temporarily removed from their muniment rooms and lent to the Commissioners to facilitate the preparation of a report may be named: The Duke of Rutland, the Duke of Portland, the Marquess of Salisbury, the Marquess Townshend, the Marquess of Ailesbury, the Earl of Dartmouth, the Earl of Carlisle, the Earl of Lindsey, the Earl of Ancaster, the Earl of Lonsdale, Lord Braye, Lord Hothfield, Lord Kenyon, Mrs. Stopford Sackville, the Right Hon. F. J. Savile Foljambe, Mr. le Fleming, of Rydal, Mr. Leyborne Popham, of Littlecote, and Mr. Fortescue, of Dropmore.

The costs of inspections, reports and calendars, and the conveyance of documents, will be defrayed at the public expense, without any charge to owners.

The Commissioners will also, if so requested, give their advice as to the best means of repairing and preserving any papers or MSS. which may be in a state of decay, and are of historical or literary value.

The Commissioners will feel much obliged if you will communicate to them the names of any gentlemen who may be able and willing to assist in obtaining the objects for which this Commission has been issued.

J. J. Cartwright,
Secretary.

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